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INSIDE

NATION



Time stood still at the World Trade Center site to mark the terror attacks 12 years ago.

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LIFE & STYLE



Even Hugh Jackman realizes his image is somewhat defanged these days.

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Fund astonished at \$36M-plus fees

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund and its trustee *ad litem*, Joseph Razzano, were greatly surprised at the amount requested by Betty Johnson's lawyers for their fees—an amount they said is unjustified and which they strongly oppose.

In a statement yesterday, the *ad litem* said they were astonished at the amount being requested by the plaintiff's attorneys for their fees, submitted as part of the global settlement in the *Johnson v. Inos* case.

The huge amount as payment for legal fees of

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'Unified opposition to fees'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

After an emergency meeting yesterday morning, Gov. Eloy S. Inos and the Legislature came up with a unified position vigorously opposing the over \$30 million in proposed fees and costs filed by Betty Johnson's attorneys. At the same time they called on retirees not to opt out of the tentatively approved NMI Retirement Fund settlement agreement.

The governor, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, main-

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- » Settlement deal still has strong support
- » Governor, lawmakers call on members not to opt out
- » House joint resolution urges Inos to oppose, negotiate lawyers' fees

Johnson lawyer says govt will pay their fees, not retirees

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The settlement fund and the retirees will not pay any attorney fees to Betty Johnson's counsels, and any such fees will not reduce the retirees' benefits, according to Johnson counsel Margery Bronster of the Honolulu-based Bronster Hoshibata law firm.

Responding to public comments about Johnson's counsels' attorneys' fees and costs of some

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Medicare team on island for CHC resurvey

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Gov. Eloy Inos is seen talking to some members of the Medicare team that is on island for the resurvey visit at the hospital during yesterday's second anniversary of the opening of the Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Dialysis Center at the Commonwealth Health Center.



By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Health Center employees were caught by surprise on Monday when a group from the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services arrived at the facility unannounced to do a resurvey of the hospital.

A five-member team from the CMS, led by survey certificate and enforcement branch manager Rufus Arther, was seen roaming around the hospital yesterday,

inspecting and checking almost each and every division and clinic.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. interim CEO Esther Muña confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Arther's group has been on island since Monday, doing the resurvey of the facility. How long they will be on island is unknown and depends on what exactly the team is looking at. Muña said the process for a "complete survey" usually takes one to two weeks.

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Century Tours backs NMI govt in stopping birth tourism. PAGE 3
Ex-GF's ID of male voice in 911 call is found reliable. PAGE 5

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Fletcher vows stability for CUC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Alan W. Fletcher, who was recently permanently appointed as executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.—a position that he has occupied in an acting capacity for more than a year—vowed yesterday to work with the Inos administration and assured people of his continued commitment to bring stability to the utilities agency.

“I would like to thank Gov. Inos for his confidence in naming me as executive director and I look forward to working with the administration and in serving the people of the CNMI. Since serving as the acting director since spring of 2012, I have become even more impressed with the great people that work here at CUC and the job they do providing power, water, and wastewater services to consumers,” he said.

Fletcher notes that while operating a utility in good times is a full time job, at CUC they have the added burden of a fiscal crisis, decaying infrastructure, and a federal order that adds a need for high level planning.

“CUC faces many challenges moving forward, with the primary concern being the cost of power. These costs are due to volatility in the oil markets and years of poor financial performance, including rates that do not recover the cost of service,” he said.

CUC has long been an underfunded utility and nearly collapsed in 2008-2009. Financially, Fletcher said, the corporation is in not much better shape today, but it has made great progress in regaining reliable supplies and repairing the utility.

CUC, he said, is also plan-

ning for its future. The agency just received a grant from the Department of the Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs, the “Empowering Insular Communities” grant of \$1.22 million. It consists of two projects: promoting conservation and looking for new energy sources. Both projects are key components of the CNMI’s energy planning. The two projects include:

\$622,000 to buy 1,550 pre-paid electrical meters. Of this total, Fletcher said CUC envision installing 1,210 meters in residential accounts and 340 meters in government offices.

\$500,000 to conduct an Integrated Resource Plan that will help determine the type, size, and location of commercially available base-load and renewable-energy projects that best fit CUC’s systems and provides the most cost-efficient new power source for consumers. CUC is working with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to develop a basic request for proposals, according to Fletcher.

“The dedicated staff at CUC has been working to overhaul the utility by stabilizing financing, replacing dilapidated equipment, and installing new infrastructure. We have seen successes in more reliable power, water, and wastewater services, but still have a long way to go. Without question, balancing scarce financial resources is our greatest challenge. CUC has a long way to go to become a modern sustainable utility, but we hope to stay on a solid path to reach that goal.”

The executive director position is one of the pivotal positions required in the federal Stipulated Order and requires U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approval.



Fletcher

Century Tours backs NMI govt in stopping birth tourism

Century Tours, one of the leaders in the tourism industry in the CNMI, echoes the government's plea to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to address the increasing maternity traffic into the Commonwealth.

Century Tours also lauds Washington Rep. Gregorio Kilili Sablan's effort to reach out to the agency to implement stricter enforcement, as reported by *USA Today* a few days ago. This appeal by Sablan goes perfectly well with Century Tours' initiatives to

curb illegal tourism in general, including exposing illegal operators in the CNMI that are involved in maternity traffic.

Century Tours has been chartering flights since 2002. Tinian Dynasty charters flights from Guangzhou and Shanghai and there are also commercial flights into Saipan. All operators must band together to address this maternity traffic and help the CNMI government with its efforts.

Earlier this year, Century Tours and its legal counsel, Ste-

ven Pixley, attended a meeting with the U.S. Homeland Security office based on Saipan to discuss the birth tourism problem and since then has been in regular communication with the agency about the issue.

Contrary to the false suggestion contained in the *USA Today* article, a review of arrival records and other data demonstrates that a vast majority of individuals involved in "birth tourism" activities arrive in the CNMI on commercial flights—not on charter flights by Century Tours.

Governor says it's not perfect budget bill, but it's workable

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that the \$123.4-million budget bill from the Legislature may not be a perfect bill because of expenditure concerns, among other things, but it's a workable one.

"What bothers me is that when we take money from one agency and give it to the other agency, it's the application of the funds in the latter agency that concerns me. Sometimes you wonder about priority," Inos said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

While the administration has not issued any directive on austerity, he said "we are still under austerity."

The governor has started reviewing the fiscal year 2014 budget bill that the House and Senate passed on Wednesday.

The budget bill went through a six-member conference committee that hashed out the differences between the House and Senate versions.

"Certainly, we were not a part of the compromise between the House and Senate. I think it's a workable budget. I have to look into it further,"

the governor added.

The governor, however, noted that the Legislature's passage of the bill this week gives him time to carefully review the spending package before the Oct. 1 start of fiscal year 2014.

Because the Legislature has passed the budget bill this week instead of close to the end of fiscal year 2013 on Sept. 30, no government shutdown is expected.

House Ways and Means Committee chair Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) thanked their fellow conferees for working together to come up with a compromise budget bill that is acceptable to both houses.

It was the smoothest budget process at the Legislature since at least 2010 when a deadlock between the House and Senate on a 2011 budget bill resulted in a partial government shutdown. That sent home over a thousand government employees for days.

The governor also encourages the Legislature to move revenue-generating bills to be able to comply with the funding needs under a tentatively approved NMI Retirement Fund

Century Tours has encountered a few cases of overstaying involving its charter flights and the company has stringently implemented its policy of immediate reporting of overstaying tourists to the Department of Homeland Security.

Century Tours carefully

screens its business partners in China in an effort to avoid engaging in business with entities that promote "birth tourism" and other questionable activities.

Century Tours is at the forefront of promoting responsible tourism in the CNMI. Unscrupulous operators take advantage

of the increasing demand for travel to the Marianas and use this popularity to lure pregnant Chinese women.

Century Tours is in unity with the governments to fight such violations and looks forward to stricter enforcement. (*Century Tours*)

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UNIFIED**From Page 1**

tains that the Fund settlement deal is still the best the government can enter into, but it is only the proposed attorneys' fees that they are concerned about.

A \$30-million lawyers' fee is the estimated equivalent of a two-year deferred 25 percent retirees' pension.

Inos acknowledged that the government will be the one to pay the plaintiffs' attorneys' fees and costs.

But those would still have to be approved by a judge, whom the governor hopes will consider the government's position.

"We've taken a position that the amount of fees being requested by the plaintiff's attorneys was just beyond reach, especially under the circumstance. We struck a settlement agreement because we couldn't afford to pay a lot of these things and now we have to pick up another \$30 million; it's just unsustainable," Inos said in an interview.

The governor said he would

JOHNSON**From Page 1**

\$37 million, Bronster stressed in an email to the media that attorney fees will not be paid out of the settlement fund and will not be paid by the NMI Retirement Fund.

Bronster explained that the settlement agreement requires the government to pay the fees as decided by the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

On Tuesday, Bronster Hoshibata asked the court to approve its attorneys' fees and costs totaling \$17.5 million.

Also on Tuesday, attorney Bruce Jorgensen, Johnson's first and current counsel, also asked for approval of his costs in the amount of \$4,643.17. He was not specific on his attorney's fees but a *Saipan Tribune* computation with the help of a lawyer showed he was asking for either \$18.6 million, \$29.6

million, or \$38.9 million.

Johnson's local counsel, attorney Stephen C. Woodruff, submitted Wednesday a petition for approval of his attorney's fees totaling \$1,012,500.

On Wednesday, Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) and Senate Vice President Victor Hocog (R-Rota) urged retirees to opt out of the tentatively approved Fund settlement agreement, describing Johnson's lawyers as "sharks," "bloodsuckers," "vampires," and "ambulance chasers."

But Bronster said the court's decision on fees is separate from the court's decision on the settlement agreement. She said the court can and should approve the settlement without approving the fees requested in their petitions.

Third, Bronster said, if the settlement fails, it means refunds to active employees will stop, and the Fund will run out of money as soon as June 2014.

permitted to formally object to the fee requests filed by the plaintiff's lawyers.

"While the settlement agreement provides that plaintiff's class counsels' fees are to be paid by the government and not the NMI Fund or the still developing settlement fund, the agreement unfortunately does not provide a mechanism to allow the trustee *ad litem* to formally object to the fee requests. The trustee *ad litem*, however, will ask the court to ensure that the government's obligations to the settlement fund are satisfied before it pays the legal fees requested by plaintiff's class counsel," according to the statement.

The proposed fees for Johnson's lawyers has provoked a harsh backlash from many sectors, including the Legislature, which described the plaintiff's lawyers as "sharks, bloodsuckers, vampires, and ambulance

chasers."

Retiree Sam McPhetres has only one word to describe the fees being asked: "Obscene." "It reminds me of the feeding frenzy at the altar of the Hillbloom probate case. There will be some new mansions on Mt. Tapotchau," he told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Some, however, believe that what Johnson's lawyers are demanding is "fair" and "equitable." One of them is Noel Soria, a Fund member located off-island. According to Soria, he is in full support of the settlement agreement between the Fund and the government because this strengthens the rights of retirees to receive their pensions by stipulating the government's commitments in addition to the constitutional provision of protecting benefits.

"I learned a great deal about the legal process, of the Johnson

terday's closed-door meeting, some lawmakers remember the statements made by some of the plaintiff's attorneys, that they are going to provide services pro bono, or free of charge.

Inos said he does not remember attorneys saying this, but just the same, the issue is the proposed fees are beyond the CNMI government's reach. "This is not just about arithmetic. It is about our ability to pay," the governor added.

Two, require plaintiff's counsel to prove to the court their entitlement to attorneys' fees.

Three, encourage the governor "to negotiate a reasonable amount of attorney's fees and payment terms with plaintiff's counsel."

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said the Senate supports the settlement agreement, but not the proposed plaintiff attorney's fees and costs.

Rep. John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan) said that, had officials known beforehand that lawyers' fees would rack up to over \$30 million, the settlement agreement may have been decided differently by parties involved, including the government who will be the one to pay for these costs.

'Ironic'

Any court-approved plaintiff at-

law firm hoped the question of its fees could have been resolved by negotiations, but unfortunately an agreement could not be reached before the deadline to file the petitions for fees.

The petitions, Bronster said, outlined the legal standards for fees in class actions settlements and requested fees based on those standards.

"But Bronster Hoshibata is still hopeful that the government will continue to negotiate to resolve the fees," she said.

She said the court will have the final say and will determine the fees if no agreement can be reached.

"The fee petitions were simply the first step in the process of putting the issue to the court in case it cannot be resolved by agreement," she said.

The hearing on the attorneys' fees and costs will be held on Sept. 30, 2013, which is also the date for the final approval of the settlement agreement.

legal team for taking the case of the retirees on contingency. The legal team risked everything they've got: time, effort, reputation and credibility. You asked for my comment on the \$30 million legal fee, I see it this way. There is an existing "best practice and rules" regarding contingency fee arrangements. If I am not mistaken, in the CNMI it is 33 1/3 percent of whatever is collectible or court judgment.

If the judgment for the Fund is \$300 million plus, \$30 million in legal fee is 10-percent of that judgment. Personally, I think it's fair! But then again, the judge will rule on what is fair and equitable," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

As for all that has happened with the pension program, Soria put the entire blame on the elected leaders of the CNMI whom he said created the mess in the first place.

torneys' fees and costs will be paid by the CNMI government, and not the Fund.

Inos said the money that will be set aside for plaintiff's attorneys' costs and fees will be separate from the money that the government will appropriate for remittance to the Fund, and the account to pay back the 25 percent deferred pension at a time when the CNMI government's budget for fiscal year 2014 is \$123.4 million.

"The retirees are not the ones to pay but it's just ironic that we will reduce their pension by as much as 25 percent because we just don't have the resource and then yet on the next page, we'll be agreeing to pay another \$30 million outside of that. It just doesn't make sense," Inos said.

He understands plaintiff's attorneys are entitled to certain fees, but not the amount proposed.

"So we will oppose that [proposed fee] vigorously. We are reviewing the individual [lawyers'] billings right now," Inos added.

House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) and other lawmakers reiterated their reservation about the proposed attorneys' fees but maintained their support for the settlement agreement.

Lawmakers, just like the gov-

ernor, said the CNMI government and the Fund entered into a settlement to help prolong the Fund's lifespan and to guarantee at least a 75 percent pension for retirees, but if a big chunk of money will only go to lawyers, then that would defeat the very reason for a settlement.

'Working together'

Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) and Senate vice president Victor Hocog (R-Rota) called on retirees during Wednesday's session to opt out of the settlement agreement because of the exorbitant fees proposed by the plaintiff's attorneys.

Yesterday, Reyes said he wants to clarify his statement.

"It is true that I've raised the idea to encourage retirees to circulate a petition to express their desire not to be part of the class action lawsuit as opposed to having active members withdrawing their contribution. However, legislation needs to be in place to provide protection for those who opt out of the settlement agreement. Toward that end, I am leaving the decision to each active member of the Retirement Fund to make their own choice whether to stay with the settlement agreement or opt out and withdraw their contribution," he said.

ments are the development and implementation of procedures and policies as well as adequate trainings for staff.

"We made a lot of changes... and a lot of them did not happen overnight," she said.

She lauded the hard work of managers and staff who have been committed to turn around the facility. Muña claimed that among the key factors for the corporation "is having one of the best teams."

During a meeting with her management and managers, Muña said she urged them not to panic when CMS comes in and inspect.

"What we're trying to do between September 2012 and today—and even till now and will continue onward—is get everybody to understand what Medicare is all about...that it is about improving standard of care," explained Muña.

According to her, the corporation spent about \$3 million and counting to address specific citations from the Medicare. This includes hiring more personnel, buying medical tools and equipment, and trainings for personnel, among others.

In an interview yesterday, nursing director Leticia Reyes confirmed that the nursing department, as well as other units and sections of CHC, were inspected by the CMS team.

CHC receives approximately

\$22 million in reimbursements yearly from Medicaid and Medicare. Without the certification for continued Condition of Participation, CHC stands to lose this huge federal assistance.

"We have positive energy that we're going to pass this [certification]!" said Muña.

FUND**From Page 1**

plaintiff attorneys will bring undue burden to the Fund members, they said, "because of the sheer size of the requests, the lack of supporting records to justify them, and the undue burden the requests places on NMI Fund members—members who are supposed to be the primary beneficiaries of any settlement."

"The NMI Fund and its trustee *ad litem* cannot and do not support, in any way, these requests for fees," the statement adds.

Johnson's lawyers filed Tuesday in court legal fees—to be paid by the NMI government—in the amount of over \$36 million for their representation in the class action suit.

Based on a court order, the Fund and its *ad litem* are not

Ex-GF's ID of male voice in 911 call is found reliable

» Judge denies defendant's motion to suppress voice ID testimony

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho denied yesterday murder suspect Joseph A. Crisostomo's request to suppress the testimony of a former girlfriend who identified him as the male voice in the 911 call that bartender Emerita Romero made before she was killed.

"The totality of the circumstances surrounding the identification procedure indicates that the identification was reliable, despite the suggestive nature of the procedure," Camacho said.

The judge ruled that there was no due process violation.

Camacho said the former girlfriend was very certain at the time of the identification and not only did she communicate verbally that she was certain, several witnesses also testified that she had a physical reaction immediately upon hearing the 911 recording.

"This degree of certainty supports a finding of reliability," Camacho said.

Crisostomo's court-appointed lawyer, attorney Janet H. King, had wanted all testimony regarding her client's pretrial identification suppressed. King specifically asked the court to suppress the voice identification made by the former girlfriend where she identified Crisostomo's voice on an audio recording made on the night of the crime.

King argued that the Federal Bureau of Investigation's identification procedure was unduly suggestive, and violates Crisostomo's right to due process.

cess of law.

Camacho heard the motion on Tuesday. Chief prosecutor Shelli Neal and assistant attorney general Brian Flaherty appeared for the government. King represented Crisostomo.

In his order, Camacho agreed that the procedure used to identify Crisostomo's voice was unduly suggestive. In this case, Camacho said the former girlfriend was asked whether she recognized the voice on the recording.

The judge said that instead of just making the former girlfriend listen to the single sample against a clear backdrop, her attention was directed to Crisostomo when she was asked—before she heard the recording—about phrases that the defendant commonly used.

Camacho said it was unnecessary for the law enforcement officer to engage in this line of questioning before the former girlfriend identified the voice.

"Thus the procedure was unduly suggestive," he said.

As to the totality of circumstances, Camacho said in this case, the former girlfriend was not present at the time of the crime. Instead, she made her identification by listening to a recording of a 911 call that Romero made.

Camacho said he heard testimony that the recording was about four minutes long and contained four voices: the voices of Romero and an unknown male assailant on one end of the line, and the voices of the female 911 dispatcher and a male police officer on the other.

Camacho said the unidentified male voice was quieter than the voice of the victim, but



Crisostomo

still audible.

Thus, the judge said, the former girlfriend had the opportunity to hear the voice of the assailant, and this factor weighs in favor of a finding of

reliability.

Camacho said that in this case, where the identifying witness was asked to listen to a recording and tell the authorities whether she recognized a voice, the relevant inquiry is how familiar the witness is with the person she identified as the speaker.

Camacho said the identifying witness was in an intimate relationship with Crisostomo for about 17 years and she is abundantly familiar with his voice.

Further, the judge noted that the identifying witness explained that she was familiar with Crisostomo's voice in circumstances similar to the

recorded event.

"Therefore, this factor indicates that the identification was reliable," he said.

The identifying witness testified that her relationship with Crisostomo ended around December 2006, and that she has had no conversations with him between December 2006 and the identification procedure that was conducted on Feb. 17, 2012.

While it had been several years since the former girlfriend had heard Crisostomo's voice, Camacho said she is very familiar with it based on their 17-year intimate relationship.

Camacho said the former girlfriend gave her full attention to

the recording, and was very certain in her identification.

Even though the former girlfriend's attention may have been drawn to Crisostomo prior to the identification procedure, there is enough evidence that, given the totality of the circumstances, her identification was still reliable, he said.

"The court leaves this matter to the jury to determine the appropriate weight to give the identification," Camacho added.

Crisostomo's trial will start on Oct. 15, 2013.

FBI agents found the body of Romero at the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque on Feb. 7, 2012, two days after she was last seen boarding a car near her house in Garapan.

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Advisory council urged to make visitors center a reality

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Marianas Trench Monument Advisory Council finally adopted its long-awaited by-laws in governing the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument yesterday, even as concerned citizens and even a member of the council urged it to make the promised visitors center a reality.

Department of Land Natural Resources Secretary Arnold Palacios said that since the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council and the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library hosted a forum on the monument, he has received a number of comments criticizing the

council for the lack of updates on the visitors center.

Palacios, along with Ben Sablan and Frank Rabauliman, make up the CNMI's representatives on the council.

Palacios said there's been a lot of backlash from the community on the slow pace of economic benefits the federal government promised when former President George W. Bush declared the Marianas Trench part of its Blue Legacy.

"There's been a lot of promises made to the community but so far we're not able to pull it off... We should do it and, if not, let's just fold camp and go home," he said.

NOAA deputy regional ad-

ministrator Lisa Croft shared Palacios' sentiments, saying the council should now work together to make sure that the commitments made by the federal government is followed.

She also acknowledged that a lot of promises and commitments made by the federal government have been broken.

The council held its second meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan and among those who attended were Sablan, Rabauliman, Palacios, Department of Defense representative Roy Tsutsui, and representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Coast Guard, and other local and federal agencies.



MARK RABAGO

Department of Defense representative Roy Tsutsui answers questions from former representative Rosemond Santos while Marianas Trench Marine Advisory Council chair Ben Sablan looks on during the council's meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

In the comments portion of the meeting, former representative Rosemond Santos described the designation of the monument in 2011 as "modern day colonialism."

She said the local community, especially the indigenous people of the CNMI, were not consulted when President Bush placed under federal protection 95,216 square miles of submerged lands and waters in various places in the Mariana archipelago as part of his Blue Legacy.

Cultural historian Genevieve Cabrera, meanwhile, urged the federal government to talk to the community instead of making decisions and policies behind their backs.

"If you show respect then respect will be shown back to you," she said.

Another former lawmaker, William Torres, also told the council to consider the North-

ern Marianas College as the location of the monument visitors center.

Attaching the visitors center to the local community college would allow it to apply for federal grants and these will be a much-needed financial boost to NMC, he said.

The CNMI Legislature came out with a joint resolution in April, urging the council to designate Marpi as the site of the visitors center because of its easy access to tourists and residents alike.

Recently, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) made known his preference for the visitors center to be on Rota, to make the island the ecotourism hub of the Commonwealth.

Architect Herman Cabrera just finished a study that plans to use the old Japanese light-house on Navy Hill as the site of the visitors center.

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SVES tops McTeacher's Night fundraiser

San Vicente Elementary School banked on their sheer number to raise the most cash in McDonald's Saipan's McTeacher's Night promotion in April.

SVES principal Boni Pangelinan and vice principal Anna Guerrero visited McDonald's Saipan's Middle Road location on Tuesday to accept proceeds from the school's participation in the Public School System-wide fundraising campaign.

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu and her daughter Mable, executive assistant to company president Joe Ayuyu, were also present to hand them the check donation.

Pangelinan and Guerrero said the funds they raised will be divided equally among the SVES' grade levels—kinder to sixth grade.

The two said the money donated by the fast-food restaurant will go a long way in buying students' school supplies. Pangelinan said the funds will be used to purchase instructional and classroom materials.

"Whatever the students need, we will buy them," she said.

Guerrero said that McDonald's donation is a good opportunity for schools to bridge their funding gaps and provide for their students.

McDonald's Saipan launched McTeacher's Night in December to generate funds to support activities and projects of individual PSS schools. Under the effort, teachers and staff of the school serve customers at McDonald's in exchange for a percentage of sales.

Mabel Ayuyu said that SVES officials, teachers, students, and parents and their families did a



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

San Vicente Elementary School principal Boni Pangelinan, third from left, and vice principal Anna Guerrero, right, poses with McDonald's Saipan staff led by general manager Marcia Ayuyu, second right, after the fast-food restaurant donated proceeds from the school's April stint in the McTeacher's Night fundraising Tuesday morning at McDonald's Middle Road.

great job supporting the school's fundraising effort in April.

Because of its large student population, SVES was able to trump other schools that took part in McTeacher's Night, said Marcia Ayuyu.

The school's enrollment was at 540 as of Tuesday.

Marcia Ayuyu said that McDonald's will also present donations from the McTeacher's Night stints of Chacha and Dandan elementary schools in the next couple of weeks. (Saipan Tribune)

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WHO
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WHEN/WHERE
September 06, 2013 – Pacific Islands Club (Residents of San Antonio and Koblerville Village)

September 13, 2013 – Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort (Residents of Kagman Village)

TIME
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Registration starts at 6:00 p.m.

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Disturbance may develop to depression

A tropical disturbance has been developing since Wednesday northeast of the northern CNMI and is expected to develop into a tropical depression Thursday night.

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office said yesterday that the tropical disturbance near the northern CNMI is now the subject of a tropical cyclone formation alert.

As of 10:45am, people on Pagan and Alamagan should expect periods of adverse weather during the next 24 to 48 hours.

“People in this area should be alert and listen for later statements and possible advisories from the National Weather Service and local officials,” said Homeland Security and EMO in a statement.

NWS in Guam said satellite images show a large area of disturbed weather across the northern CNMI of Saipan.

Occasional heavy showers along with thunderstorms and gusty southwest winds of 20 to 35 miles per hour are expected north of Anatahan through today, Friday.

Sea conditions will remain rough and choppy with combined seas ranging from 6 to 8 feet. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Man gets 9 mos. in prison for trespass

A man has been sentenced to nine months in prison for entering a hotel staff housing in China Town, Garapan in the early morning hours of New Year's Day, traumatizing a 13-year-old girl.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Peterson C. Tipinogeni on Wednesday to a year in prison, all suspended except for nine months, for criminal trespass and disturbing the peace.

The 20-year-old Tipinogeni was given credit for nine months of time served. He will be placed on probation for three years and required to pay a \$200 fine, \$300 in probation fees, and \$25 in court costs. He was also required to perform 200 hours of community service.

Wiseman said the Office of the Attorney General exercised its prerogative to dismiss the burglary charge.

Wiseman said the defendant entered a house and the noise awakened the 13-year-old girl, who was extremely frightened and traumatized upon seeing the stranger in their home.

“In my eyes you should be punished severely,” the judge said.

In July, Wiseman rejected the first plea deal that the government offered to the defendant after he found the proposed six-month prison term as “too lenient.” (Ferdie de la Torre)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

September 13, 2005

‘DFS rethinks renovation’

The impending pullout of Japan Airlines has got DFS Galleria thinking twice about its \$2.5-million renovation plan for the shop's airport outlet. DFS Galleria informed the Commonwealth Ports Authority last week that the company may postpone its renovation proposal, CPA executive director Carlos Salas disclosed yesterday. The company's plan comes in anticipation of the economic impact of JAL's withdrawal from Saipan next month. “We're discussing the plan with DFS. We have asked them to consider phasing in the project, rather than totally putting it aside, so that the renovation would be in place when the traffic returns,” said Salas.

‘Higher prices of goods in the offing’

Rising fuel prices is having a spillover effect on the operational costs of local companies, as rising freight costs further push up the cost of doing business in the CNMI. Matson Navigation Company announced last week that it would raise its fuel surcharge from 11.5 to 13 percent in its services between Hawaii and the Marianas effective Oct. 2. Another ocean freight company, Horizon Lines, disclosed last week that it would increase fuel surcharge by 2.5-percent beginning this Thursday. Local wholesalers and forwarders see nothing in these but increased operational costs, which would inevitably impact on the prices of basic commodities in the CNMI.

September 13, 2006

‘Former leaders did it to benefit themselves’

Wondering what caused all this huge unfunded liability by the government with the retirement fund program? And just why a small island government provides a very generous retirement package to its employees? According to Gregorio C. Sablan, a member of the retirement program, the answer can be traced back about two decades ago when legislators passed liberal retirement benefits.

Shell rolls back prices on unleaded gas

Shell Marianas lowered by 10 cents a gallon its prices for unleaded gasoline effective today. Shell president Ruben Domingo said the 10-cent per gallon reduction also applies to V-Power at Shell stations. There is no mention of any price rollback for diesel. “Shell will lower the prices on Shell V-Power and Shell Unleaded effective close of business Sept. 12. Since our last price decrease, the market cost of supply has continued to reduce and we will pass these savings to our customers,” Domingo said.

September 13, 2007

‘Quit lobbying for takeover’

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial asked Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio yesterday to quit “lobbying” in favor of legislation placing local immigration under federal control. Fitial issued the statement amid Tenorio's efforts to help U.S. congressional committees gather information and proceed with the federalization proposal. “I ask you again: Pete, please stop lobbying in favor of this legislation,” Fitial wrote in a letter to the CNMI resident representative to the nation's capital. “On behalf of the overwhelming majority of the U.S. citizens in the Commonwealth, I ask that you and your staff stop such efforts and join the rest of us in urging that the congressional committees defer action on these bills until the GAO completes its report on the CNMI economy,” he added.

PSS' reliance on federal funding increasing

The Public School System's is seeing a dip in its reliance on local funding in the last 10 years, while seeing a converse increase in its dependence on federal funding to make up for the shortfall. This came up during a recent presentation conducted by PSS federal programs advisor Tim Thornburgh where he showed the 10-year funding trends for the CNMI school system from 1998 to 2008. In 1998, federal funding started with over \$10 million. This increased to \$15 million a year after and showed a consistent upsurge from 2000 to 2002. In 2003 and 2004, federal funding spiked dramatically, with over \$20 million in federal funds poured into PSS. In 2005, federal funding passed the \$25-million mark and increased by \$5 million last year. This year, federal funding reached over \$30 million. Thornburgh projects that federal funding for the CNMI education system would increase by a couple of millions more in 2008.

Cultural Heritage Exhibit opens at Kanoa Resort



other local artists have so far signed up for the monthlong exhibit, which celebrates Cultural Heritage Month this September.

Melchy Billy, Carolinian beads; Irineo David, dried leaves painting, Gregorio Bachis, painter; and Martha Teregeyo, Carolinian beads, are also taking part in this year exhibit.

Moteisou said he expects more local artists to sign up for the exhibit.

MARK RABAGO
Local artist Flowerpot Salas was one of six artists initially taking part in this year's Cultural Heritage Exhibit at the lobby of Kanoa Resort.

The 2013 Cultural Heritage Exhibit started without much fanfare last Tuesday, with six artists displaying their wares at the lobby of the Kanoa Resort in Susupe.

Flowerpot Salas was of six artists who initially signed up for this year's exhibit. She also held a demonstration for those wanting to see how she makes her masterpieces, which range from maws made of the dried bark of the bago tree and handbags and artificial flowers made of the same material in different hues.

The material from the bago tree takes weeks to prepare. After harvesting the bark, the material is dipped in the sea

for three to four weeks. After it dries, Salas then uses it to make a host of decorative and day-to-day items.

Salas said she's been taking part in the Cultural Heritage Exhibit, organized by the CNMI Arts Council, since 1995.

The Kobilerville resident said she always makes it a point to participate in the yearly exhibit because of her "love for culture and passions for the arts."

Originally from Samoa, Salas is also a cultural performer and has taught Polynesian dance to many students on the island.

Arts Council coordinator Darrell Moteisou said that five

The Arts Council has been staging the Cultural Heritage Exhibit for about 10 years and this marks the second straight year the Kanoa Resort is hosting the exhibit.

The Cultural Heritage Exhibit is one of the three major exhibits hosted annually by the Arts Council. The other two are the Women's Exhibit every March and the Christmas Exhibit in December.

For more information about the exhibit, visit the Arts Council next to the post office on Capital Hill, call 322-9982 or 83, or email Moteisou at moteisou@gmail.com or darrellm_21@hotmail.com. (Mark Rabago)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Advanced happy 1st birthday to Kaden Aeon Sanchez, who will be celebrating his birthday tomorrow! Enjoy your first birthday because you don't have to do anything—just smile and pose for pictures!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A birthday wish for a special little boy who makes us and everyone he knows so happy. Happy 2nd birthday Kai'po Francisco Camacho! With love, Nino, Nina, and sister Shalei.

Legal Notice

If You Bought an E-book

You Could Get a Payment from a \$95 Million Settlement

Settlements have been reached with Macmillan and Penguin in antitrust lawsuits filed by State Attorneys General and Class Counsel about the prices of electronic books ("E-books"). The lawsuits claim there was a conspiracy involving Macmillan, Penguin, and other top U.S. publishers and Apple, Inc. ("Apple") to fix and raise retail prices of E-books. Macmillan and Penguin have agreed to settle the lawsuits but deny they did anything wrong.

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You are included in the Settlements if:

1. You purchased an E-book that was published by Hachette, HarperCollins, Simon & Schuster, Macmillan, or Penguin (as well as all other names under which these publishers also publish E-books), **and**
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If you would like to review a full list of the publishers included, please visit www.EbookAGSettlements.com.

What Does the Settlement Provide?

Macmillan and Penguin have agreed to pay \$95 million into a fund to pay customers who purchased E-books published by any of the five Publishers. The Settlements also include agreements by Macmillan and Penguin to comply with antitrust laws, and certain orders of the Court.

If you purchased one or more qualifying E-books, depending on the retailer through which you purchased your E-books, you are eligible to:

- Receive an *automatic* credit into your E-book retailer account, unless you ask for a check,
- Receive an *automatic* check, or
- File a Claim Form to receive a check.

The Court must still approve the Attorneys' General and Class Plaintiffs' plan to distribute the Settlement money to consumers. This plan includes a request that the Court approve combining the \$95 million from the Macmillan and Penguin Settlements with monies from settlements the Court has previously approved into one Settlement Fund.

While the exact amount of payments per E-book is not yet known, there will be two levels of payments, based on categories of books. The best estimates of payments for each E-book you purchased are as follows:

- **New York Times bestsellers:** \$3.06 per E-book. These include titles that were *New York Times* bestsellers at any time, irrespective of when you purchased the E-book.
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Residents of Minnesota are included in these Settlements, but they will be subject to different conditions than other consumers and are encouraged to review the detailed notice for Minnesota-only residents by selecting the Minnesota link found on the Settlement Website at www.EbookAGSettlements.com or by calling 1-866-621-4153.

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Your Other Rights

You can choose to exclude yourself from the Settlements. The exclusion must be in writing and postmarked by **October 21, 2013**. If you exclude yourself from a Settlement, you will not receive a benefit from that Settlement. If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlements, you will not be able to sue Macmillan or Penguin for any claims at issue in this case. If you stay in the Settlements, you may object to them in writing, postmarked by **October 21, 2013**. The Detailed Notice explains how to exclude yourself or object, and an Exclusion Form is available online or by mail. The Court will hold a hearing on **December 6, 2013, at 3:00 p.m.** to consider whether to approve the Settlements. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing.

SHRM Presents "Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Review and Update"

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) CNMI Chapter is pleased to announce its September general membership meeting with Mr. Timothy Riera, Director for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Honolulu Office, as speaker.

This session will focus on the review of Equal Employment Opportunity laws and recent EEOC updates including new developments involving retaliation, sex discrimination, as well as arrest and conviction records.

This training will take about 2 hours and will start at 10:00 a.m. this coming Wednesday, September 18, 2013. The cost of attendance is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members and includes lunch. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Ms. Malou Jardinero at 234-7171 local 1518 or e-mail her at malou_jardinero@tanholdings.com.

This is a Morning Presentation (with Lunch):

Date: Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Venue: Pacific Islands Club – Charley's Cabaret

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (includes lunch)

Cost: \$20 SHRM Members, \$30 Non-SHRM Members

SHRM: Leading People. Leading Organizations.

**This notice is only a summary. For detailed information:
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Opinion

Haga Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The 9/11 attacks grow distant

Twelve years ago, hijackers carried out the worst terrorist attack in American history. But 12 years is a long time for a busy, future-oriented society like ours, and the 9/11 anniversary is slowly taking on the faded aura of the historical past.

Last year, after the big 10th anniversary in 2011, many ceremonies were scaled down and fewer people attended them.

Kids entering high school today have no memory of the attacks, and even this year's college freshmen were too young then to have much understanding of what had occurred. It may seem likely that before long, Sept. 11 will be noted purely as a historic moment, much like the Dec. 7 anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

There's great reason to resist that impulse: We live with the repercussions of 9/11 every day.

American troops went into Afghanistan just weeks after the attack in pursuit of al-Qaida operatives and the Taliban rulers who harbored them. American troops are still there, 56,000 strong, with the ultimate outcome of the war still in doubt.

Osama bin Laden is dead, but his organization has survived—and even spread to new countries, including Iraq, Libya and Yemen.

At home, the reminders of 9/11 are even more numerous. The public has adapted, unhappily, to airport security screenings that are far more intrusive and time-consuming than they used to be. Government buildings now feature metal detectors, and they are shielded by concrete barriers.

Americans find themselves under unprecedented surveillance, with the National Security Agency collecting vast stores of data about their phone calls, emails and Internet traffic. To a large extent, the FBI, CIA and other government agencies have revamped their missions to focus on preventing terrorism by any practical means. The Pentagon still holds more than 160 captives at Guantanamo, with their fate undetermined.

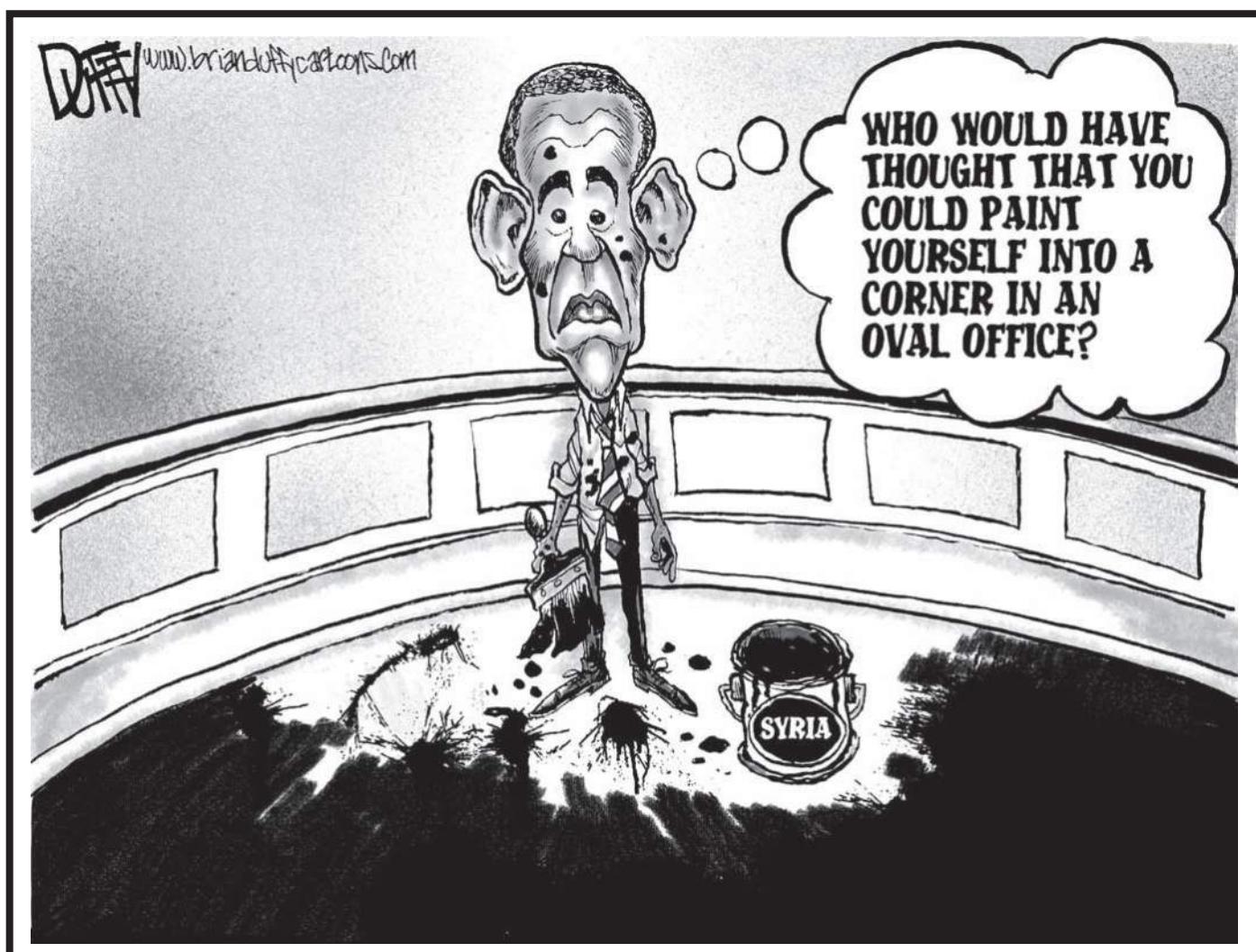
In many ways, of course, ordinary life has gone on with little visible disruption. Americans expected that 9/11 was merely the first of many major terrorist attacks at home, but that fear proved largely unfounded. In the decade before, the United States averaged 41 terrorist attacks a year. In the decade after, the number was 16 per year.

Even the horrific Boston Marathon bombing in April was not enough to bring back the chronic anxiety that gripped the national psyche in the weeks and months after 9/11. It was, however, a stark reminder that we live in a world different from the one we knew.

The starker difference between Dec. 7, 1941, and Sept. 11, 2001: World War II had a conclusion. Our enemies became our allies, trading partners, visitors to our shores and hosts to our tourists.

There will be no V-E Day, no Potsdam Conference, no V-J Day in the battle against terrorism. Americans may give less thought than before to the fall of the World Trade Center buildings. But they have not forgotten the threat they face, and they have not lost their determination to defeat it.

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Trustees of NMI land

Recently, Gerald Perez from Guam alluded that Article 12 is a deterrent to economic growth in the CNMI. Such an assertion is deceitful at best, a depiction of his orientation of commercialism tied to land as just another asset for disposal. I offer the following for purposes of clarity.

If Article 12 were a major impediment, then how does he invalidate the historic and unprecedented wealth creation of the mid-'80s well into the '90s here? Wasn't this constitutional provision in place two decades ago? Furthermore, how come hotels and resorts sprung up all over the islands with land alienation in place?

In 1993 before a U.S. House of Representatives' subcommittee on appropriations the CNMI governor declared that Congress must delete all funds for the islands intended for government operations. Reason? We have sufficient locally generated revenues for this purpose. Believe it or not, Article 12 was intact then and didn't derail unprecedented wealth creation.

Mr. Perez's argument grandly ignores that the real beast is wrapped in a single word: Policy. Of all people, he should know it is policy that determines investments. If I may ask a rudimentary query: What are investors looking for in a prospective investment venue? A study how to attract and retain investments by Cato Institute says:

"Foreign direct investment (or its absence) is ultimately a judgment by the world's value creators about a country's institutions, policies, human capital, and prospects. They explore if it is equipped with a highly productive work force, world-class research universities, a stable political climate, strong legal institutions, accessible capital markets, and other advantages including policy stability."

"These are issues that attract the investment needed to produce the innovative ideas, revolutionary technologies, and new products and industries that have continued to undergird regional or global economic value chain."

It's all about policy

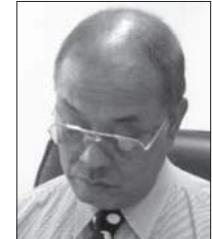
Was the exodus of foreign capital in recent past triggered by Article 12 or was it the result of our "ignorance" of the vicious history of geopolitics? The peddling of failed policies further exacerbates the heavy investment decline. Has the business community done its homework to see which predatory policies (federal and local) have consistently annihilated the local economy? Is it fearful doing due diligence on this score?

These policies include federalization of minimum wage, immigration, local taxes and fees (inherently destructive over the long-term), and the fatal cost of utilities. These are the diabolically regressive policies that have pounded to submission what's left of the local economy.

Is the warped view a reason to promote cultural genocide spouting misguided and desperate rhetoric that includes culturally shipwrecked speakers? The SCC ought to know best that the CNMI's predatory policies need major overhaul and simplification.

By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Article 12 is foundation of tradition

Mr. Perez, the value system we have of indigenous land is the supremacy it represents as the historical birthplace of our cultural traditions. This institutional knowledge has evolved over five centuries. You can't dismiss the inherent strength and value culture gives a people in their collective efforts to move the needle of growth forward with their mother tongue as their anchor.

It's tradition that provided sustenance in the edification of our livelihood for centuries. It's called home, not just another place in the sun. It is our tradition that granted us attaining the promises of the future and the ability to ensure the perpetuation of our peoplehood. It's alive and well in our spiritual being. Therefore, the nexus of land and tradition is irrevocable!

Moreover, we've dropped anchor long time ago in the indigenous land of these Pearly Isles so we don't turn into shipwrecked passengers like culturally displaced others. We know our history, where we are today and where we're going from here. It's grounded in our traditional values born upon ancestral indigenous land. Like our ancestors, we're also trustees of these isles.

While we welcome economic growth based on progressive and inclusive policies, it should allow for the assimilation of the indigenous people as true partners of investments. Otherwise, we ask: economic development for whom? Is it for the indigenous people or foreign businesses that repatriate their profits to their home countries or both?

Now, did Guam's economic gain lift all boats concurrently? If so, how do you explain the thousands of landless and homeless? Was the assistance extended housing recipients from local economic growth or federal funds? We take pride in our culture for it has anchored our wellbeing since birth, ascertaining that we don't become deracinated or disillusioned Chamolinians.

Economic dystopia

The word "dystopia" simply means where nothing works. How true the persistently deteriorating economic conditions at home—nothing works—but we stare at the single issue mired in disorientation.

Appalling that even the bankrupt retirement program stands as a huge relic openly demonstrating what happens when politicians engage in what's known as "feeding off a hog's back." Well, the poor hog is dead after one too many Nancy Boys devoured his back

See TRUSTEES on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The cigarette break

Now that we've almost burned through summer I'm still hoping to improve the year somehow. It's been too quiet. Like the old song says, kicks just keep getting harder to find.

It's too late in the game to gamble on unproven fads, so I want some kicks that are time-tested.

Hey, here's an old-school idea: smoking. Maybe that will spice things up a bit.

Have you ever seen the Marlboro ads from back in the day? They featured a rugged-looking cowboy looking, well, uh, rugged. You can tell by the set of his jaw and the steel in his gaze that he's up to important things and that he has Mastered the Situation, whatever that situation may be.

Can you imagine him being nagged to unload the dishwasher? No.

Can you see him sitting through a PowerPoint presentation? Never.

Those petty humiliations are for inferior men. The Marlboro man lives on a higher plane. He's always in his element because he's always in Marlboro Country.

Let's be practical here: A gallon of gas will barely get you from Coral Ocean Point to Marpi. A pack of smokes, on the other hand, can take you all the way to Marlboro Country.

Are you ready for a cigarette break? I am...

And so I find myself as a mysterious stranger riding on horseback. I'm touching the brim of my hat in salutation whenever I see a lady and I'm saying, in a gravelly, smoker's baritone, "Howdy, ma'am."

After loping to the center of town, I dismount and tie my horse to a hitch in front of the tavern.

Then I light up a cigarette and stare into the distance and look rugged.

This peaceful moment doesn't last long, though. The swinging doors of the tavern fly open as a pack of loud rowdies spills out

of the joint.

One of them is a drunken dude with a black hat and yellow teeth. He bumps into me with his shoulder, then curses under his breath and wheels around to face me.

His pack of pals, obviously the local toughs, all turn their attention to me. Their hands are resting on their holstered six-shooters.

A quiet tension fills the air. The few pedestrians in the area quickly scatter.

But I maintain my steely composure, staring off into the distance as I savor the smooth tobacco flavor of my Marlboro.

After sizing me up for a moment, the toughs are subdued by my gravitas. Most people are, of course. Nervous smiles appear on the toughs' faces. So I decide to break the ice and I hand around my trusty pack of smokes, making fast pals of everyone.

We all light up. Then we all stand around looking rugged.

A dancing girl from the tavern comes out to see what the commotion was all about. She has cinnamon-red hair and a smile that holds the ace of hearts. I drop my steely gaze for a moment and toss her a quick glance. She blushes and doubles down on her ace.

"Hello, drifter," she says. "I don't reckon I've seen you before."

"You reckon right, ma'am," I say.

"So what's it take to get to know you better?"

I take a deep draw on my cigarette and allow myself a wry smile.

"Never try to rope the wind," I say.

She puts her hand on my arm, then pulls up so close to me I can smell her perfume as she whispers, "Ain't no wind ever outrun my lasso, cowboy."

Well, one thing leads to another, and as she and I get better acquainted I tell myself: "This sure beats PowerPoint."

But here's some data anyway: One in five American adults smokes cigarettes. The Midwest has the highest percentage of smokers at 25 percent.

Globally, a 2007 Gallup survey found that Cuba has the highest percentage of smokers at 40 percent. Next came Kuwait, Chile,

million blow to the CNMI in the form of ridiculous and unwarranted attorney's fees would mean to our government's ability to meet the needs of its people.

It's hard to wrap your brain around what exactly \$38 million represents, so I've put together a list of things to use as a comparison.

\$38,000,000.00 is equal to:

■ The annual budget appropriation for the CNMI Public School System. That's the salaries of administrators, teachers, and all other staff, fuel costs and the maintenance of buses, teacher and student supplies, and the maintenance and utilities of 21 physical school facilities.

■ Seven times the annual CNMI appropriation for the Northern Marianas College.

■ The annual budget of the Commonwealth Health Center, and nearly eight times the annual CNMI appropriations for our hospital.

■ 30 percent of the CNMI government's annual budget.

■ The approximate annual cost of operating 126 of our important village satellite health centers, the last of which were closed a couple of years ago due to funding.

■ Twenty times the operating costs of the entire CNMI Superior Court for an entire year (that is 39 full time staff and the costs of all operations)

■ The wages of 1,600 – 1,700 employees for an entire year.

■ The estimated cost of a "strike" on Syria using an entire carrier group for about one week.

■ 172,727,272 (million) meals for victims of the earthquake

Ai lokkue nanang \$36 million legal fees

Ai lokkue nanang! Our beloved CNMI is sold alive by our government and the lawyers and Gov. Inos are robbing retirees and the CNMI taxpayers of their livelihood. As I stated in my earlier letter to the editor, the government will incur over \$15 million in legal fees for agreeing to pay the class representative's attorneys' fees and cost. If only the NMI Retirement Fund trustees and our government had listened to retirees' sound advice, the huge legal fees that started from the NMI Retirement Fund bankruptcy could have been avoided and now again our government is facing another \$36 million or more in legal fee liability just because our government continues not to do the right thing. But, this is not the end of the serious bleeding, if we continue to allow Gov. Inos to determine what is best for all us! Once the CNMI defaults on the millions of dollars to pay to the settlement fund, the attorneys will come back and this time are guaranteed a contingency fee to collect. We must stop the bleeding now!

We are now starting to see that the settlement agreement is not at all a "good deal" for our CNMI and us retirees, contrary to what Gov. Inos and some members of the Legislature proclaimed it to be. The only way to save the CNMI and for retirees to prevent be-

Jesus Taisague
Koblerville, Saipan

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit [Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com](http://EdStephensJr.com). His column runs every Friday.



Russia, Belarus, and Bangladesh, all tied at 37 percent.

The nations with the smallest percentage of smokers were Nigeria (6 percent), El Salvador (8 percent), Ghana (8 percent), Afghanistan (9 percent), and Ethiopia (9 percent).

By the way, I'm not sure that Gallup's survey was limited to cigarettes. Their question was simply, "Did you smoke yesterday, or not?"

Anyway, according to a Business Wire posting on the Web, the world consumes 5 trillion cigarettes a year. The top three markets are China, Russia, and the U.S.

As for me, as tempting as it is, I'll skip the smoking thing for now.

I think I'll take up drinking tea instead. That's another old-school diversion. The idea came to me when I was unloading the dishwasher. I found an old bone China teacup that's painted with little yellow birds and blue flowers. It has a matching saucer.

So I'm enjoying tea time right now, relishing my memories of Marlboro Country.

As for the redhead, well, ma'am, I'm sorry I couldn't stick around after our time together. You should never fall for a drifter. I tried to warn you. The trail behind me is littered with broken hearts.

And as for everyone else, let me tell you: It's really hard to look rugged when you're sipping herbal chamomile out of a cup with little birdies and flowers.

in Haiti. 126,666,666 meals if you include the costs to ship those meals.

■ Enough to pay 974 teachers a salary for an entire year (based on CNMI median salary for teachers).

■ \$34,800,000 more than the President of the United States will make in the entirety of his two terms (eight years).

■ 50,666,666 (million) school meals for CNMI kids.

■ Twelve times the amount available to accommodate lifesaving medical referrals for an entire year.

■ The annual average salary of 370 doctors.

■ Approximately 5,748 hemodialysis machines.

■ The estimated cost of James Cameron's record-breaking voyage to the bottom of the Mariana Trench, including the development and construction of the sub. (4.5 times the cost of the development and construction of the sub alone)

■ Nearly 70 percent of the entire annual budget of the Republic of Palau

■ Only \$5 million-\$6 million less than the annual budget appropriation for the entire Federated States of Micronesia.

■ Approximately 245 times the annual salary of a Chief Judge in a U.S. District Court.

■ Providing 42,696,629 cholera vaccinations.

I'll close by stating that I don't believe attempting to kill the settlement agreement is the solution. That will only see things get messier and see more sharks come in to feed as the litigation will continue for months and years. The solution lies with the judge and hopefully her determining a fair fee for the attorneys. What they've proposed is very far from that.

Robert H. Hunter
Garapan, Saipan

TRUSTEES

From Page 10

while failing to feed it.

This is just the tip of the destructive fiscal iceberg headed our way. I wonder if the obvious disconnect swims under the sunny skies of legislators bagging \$90,000 per year. I've seen how they shop in grocery stores—by the case of chicken and everything else—while we sprain our fingers on calculators trying to figure out if we could buy a whole piece of chicken. *Dalai 'ste!*

Well, the day to resolutely take critical review of their performance is steadily nearing. The critical period of review will arrive, like it or not. Like fatally dangerous magma it will torch everything in its way especially career politicians who can't figure out "what's north."

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲ 86° ▾ 76°	▲ 86° ▾ 76°	▲ 86° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 89	▼ 79
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 76
Yap	Cloudy	▲ 89	▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 86	▼ 76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86	▼ 74
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 86	▼ 74
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86	▼ 79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 64	▼ 53
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86	▼ 66
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 87	▼ 80
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 88	▼ 75
London	Showers	▲ 68	▼ 59
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 82	▼ 64
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 86	▼ 78
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 59	▼ 44
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 85	▼ 76
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 86	▼ 66
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 91	▼ 75
Paris	Showers	▲ 68	▼ 60
Pusan	Windy	▲ 84	▼ 74
Rome	Sunny	▲ 79	▼ 60
Salem	Sunny	▲ 90	▼ 61
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66	▼ 57
Seoul	Thunderstorms	▲ 78	▼ 73
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 75
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 94	▼ 68

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

12:58 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.8 Feet	Today	6:05 AM	6:20 PM	Today	12:53 PM
8:37 AM	Today	Low Tide: 0.1 Feet	Saturday	6:05 AM	6:20 PM	Saturday	1:50 PM
3:53 PM	Today	High Tide: 1.6 Feet	Sunday	6:06 AM	6:19 PM	Sunday	2:45 PM
8:58 PM	Today	Low Tide: 1.2 Feet	Monday	6:06 AM	6:18 PM	Monday	3:37 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHOT

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747.

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:40am	Daily
DL285	6:35am	9:10am	1, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
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CHC dialysis center maintains perfect score from Medicare



Gov. Eloy S. Inos, second from left, joins hospital employees and officials in celebrating the second anniversary of the Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Dialysis Center at the Commonwealth Center. With the governor during yesterday's celebration are, from left, corporation interim CEO Esther Muña, former Department of Public Health secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez, and hospital director for medical affairs Dr. Sherleen Osman.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Dialysis Center remains in full compliance with all standards of the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which once again lauded the facility's performance after it successfully maintained its perfect cue score for this year.

Dr. Sherleen Osman, medical director for the public hospital's renal section, disclosed yesterday that the Medicare formally notified the facility of its outstanding performance, maintaining a perfect 30/30 score. Osman said the Medicare certification is periodically issued every August.

The Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Dialysis Center has been successful in bringing its rate up to perfection after prior years' scores of between 15/30 and 18/30.

Saipan Tribune learned that the dialysis unit received 15 points for anemia management and 15 points for dialysis adequacy last year. This is the same rating the center earned this year.

The purpose of the incentive program is to improve patient care by setting performance standards for quality of care. Facilities failing to meet these standards may be subject to a payment reduction of up to 2 percent.

CMS approved the opening of the new dialysis center at the public hospital in 2011. Yesterday marked the second year of this important occasion.

Among the guests of honor in yesterday's festivity were Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board chair Joaquin Torres, and former Department of Public Health secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez. The facility is named after Villagomez's father, the late Dr. Jose T. Villagomez.

"This is a tribute to all hard-working people that are focused in delivering care to our

people—[interim CEO] Esther Muña and Dr. Osman's team. The indicators back then was perfect and it's still perfect...I just expect them to continue. They go above and beyond in taking care of the people and I am glad that we have this first-class facility on island," Villagomez said during yesterday's gathering.

When asked about the things she wants to achieve more for the center, Osman said: "We're never stationary. We always reinvent ourselves and we would like to be the best that we can."

According to Karlo Reyes III, dialysis unit manager, the center has a total of 25 staff, of which 10 are nurses and the rest are support staffers including technicians, licensed practical nurses, and nursing aids.

As of Aug. 30, the unit has 105 patients being treated at its 27 stations.

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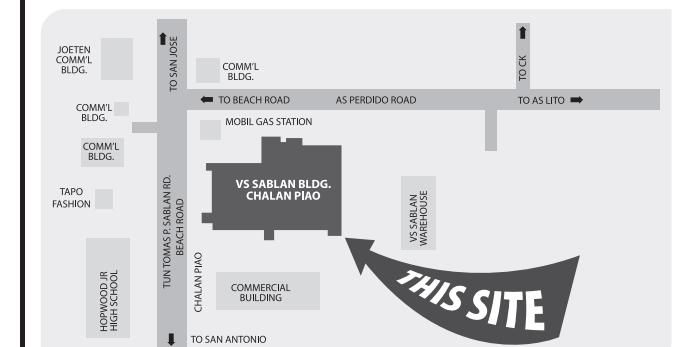
TESTIMONIALS FROM CHILDREN ON CHILDHOOD OBESITY & CHILDHOOD CANCER PRESENTATIONS: ZUMBA, BOXERCISE SOCCER • FRISBEE THROWING • OBSTACLE COURSES



For more information: **670-236-8638** letsmovemarianas@gmail.com

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Habitual offender gets 4-year sentence for car theft

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman slapped a habitual offender with a four-year prison term on Wednesday for burglarizing the Islander Rent-A-Car along Airport Road and steal-

ing its 2013 Toyota Corolla.

Wiseman sentenced 28-year-old Jack Petrus to 10 years in prison, all suspended except for the first four years which he will serve day-to-day

without parole.

Petrus will be placed on probation for five years after his release from prison. He was required to pay Islander Rent-A-Car \$841 in restitution and \$10

fine, and complete 500 hours of community service.

Petrus and counsel, chief public defender Douglas Hartig, signed a plea deal with the government, represented by assistant attorney general Margo Brown.

Petrus pleaded guilty to burglary and theft of vehicle. As part of the plea deal, the other charges—theft, criminal mischief, and criminal contempt—were dropped. A theft charge in a 2010 case was also dismissed.

Wiseman said he reluctantly accepted the plea agreement considering the defendant's criminal history.

"In the eyes of this court, you are a menace to the society!" the judge told Petrus.

Wiseman said Petrus committed "stupid crimes" in the past.

Wiseman said he accepted the plea deal because the defendant will be removed from society for quite some time.

The judge warned Petrus that if he commits another crime, he will see to it that he will get the maximum sentence.

According to the plea agreement, Petrus unlawfully entered the Islander Rent-A-Car on Nov. 28 to 29, 2012, to steal a 2013 Toyota Corolla. At the time, the company was not open to the public. At that time, the defendant was on probation in a 2011 criminal case.

Among the defendant's many convictions was when he tried to stab his relative with a spoon because he was hungry. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

MTEC/MY WAVE Tourism Summit on Oct. 30

The Marianas Tourism Education Council invites all schools with MY WAVE (Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Clubs to attend the MTEC/MY WAVE Tourism Summit slated for Oct. 30, 2013.

This year's summit will be held at Saipan World Resort with the theme "Tourism is

Everybody's Business 24/7 in the 670." The summit aims to educate students on the Northern Marianas Tourism industry and engage their active participation in tourism.

"In addition to MTEC an-

nual school presentations, the MTEC/MY WAVE Summit provides an opportunity for students in MY WAVE Clubs to share ideas, expand their understanding, and generate excitement about the tourism industry," said MTEC chair Vicky Benavente. "Our goal is to have the students understand that they are an important part of our visitor industry and to get their commitment with helping out in a way they, themselves, will identify."

This year's keynote speaker will be Mary Torre Rhodes, chairwoman of the Guam Ho-

tel and Restaurant Association. MTEC also plans to hold an essay contest in conjunction with the summit; details will be announced later this month.

Schools interested in sending a MY WAVE Club delegation to the summit may contact Marianas Visitors Authority Community Projects manager Martin Duenas at 664-3210 or mduenas@mymarianas.com to register or for more information. In addition, schools interested in forming a MY WAVE Club for the first time may be eligible for seed money and other financial support from MTEC. (MVA)



SEPTEMBER 2013

13	Friday	6:30pm	JGLive	Channel 14
14	Saturday	8:30am	Clean up and Painting	Kilili Beach Part
		11:00am	Cooking Demo	Joeten Kiyu P. Library
17	Tuesday	3:30pm-4:30pm	Marianas Health Walk	Fishing Base
18	Wednesday	6:00pm	JGLive (Healthy Food, Activities)	Channel 14
19	Thursday	5:30pm-9:30pm	Street Market Community Groups	Fishing Base
21	Saturday	8:00am	Vine Cutting	Lau Lau (San Vicente) Parking Lot
25	Wednesday	6:00pm	Volunteer Orientation	Ada Gym
26	Thursday	5:30pm-9:30pm	Street Market LMM Hosting	Fishing Base
27	Friday	6:00pm	Volunteer Orientation	Ada Gym

"Every individual who attends and participates in any of the activities on the calendar prior to the Let's Move Marianas Expo! must sign-in. They will be given an incentive for every activity that they will be able to redeem at the Let's Move Marianas Expo! So bring the WHOLE family. All activities with the exception of the TV Shows."

**For more information: 670-236-8638
letsmovemarianas@gmail.com**

Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.

Jury selection cancelled

This is to inform all prospective jurors on panel "JS" that the jury selection scheduled for Monday, Sept. 16, 2013, at 8:30am in Courtroom 223A is cancelled until further notice. For further information contact the assistant deputy clerk at the Superior Court at 236-9700 Ext. 773. (PR)

CRA meeting today

Commonwealth Retirees Association chair Lorenzo Cabrera is calling a general assembly for members today, Sept. 13, at Marianas High School gymnasium. Meeting will start at 6pm and will discuss issues pertaining to the Retirement Fund, including the latest filings in court. Members are encouraged to attend the assembly. (PR)

DEQ brigade to take part in 28th ICC

The Division of Environmental Quality's Cleanup Brigade will deviate from its regular first Saturday of the monthly beach cleanup brigade in order to join the Coastal Resource Management's celebration of the 28th Annual International Coastal Cleanup, which is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 20, and Saturday, Sept. 21, on Saipan. Rota will be participating on Sept. 20 and Tinian will be hosting theirs on Sept. 18. If you would like to volunteer, contact a CRM ICC coordinator to sign up.

■ Saipan coordinator: Nicole Schafer, 664-8312

■ Rota coordinator: Bill Pendergrass, 532-0466

■ Tinian coordinator: Edwin Hofsneider, 433-0494

For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. (DEQ)

Notice of NRCS public meeting

A USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service State Technical Committee Meeting will be held for the Pacific Islands Area on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013, from 9am to 11am, at the following video teleconference site: USDA NRCS West Area Office, 770 East Sunset Blvd., Suite 260, Barrigada, GU 96913. Contact the Saipan Field Office at (670) 233-3415 for more information. (PR)

Pre-retirement training for reservists

The 63rd Regional Support Command and 9th Mission Support Command, Theater Support Group, U.S. Army Reserve, are scheduled to host a pre-retirement training brief event for Army Reserve and Army National Guard Soldiers, Sept. 21, at the Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe. Presenters from military service centers, Veteran Affairs and various military transition organizations will discuss topics about Tri-Care/dental options, VA and educational benefits, retirement pay, and much more as they pertain to Guard and reserve soldiers. Registration is from 7:30am to 8am. Briefing is from 8am to 5pm.

To register, visit <https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=167136&k=036745087851>. Point of contact for TSG Detachment Marianas is SFC Joe M. Falaminiano at (670) 322-6671 or Joe.m.falaminiano.mil@mail.mil. (PR)

Delta upgrades trans-Pacific business class menu

» **Introducing new menu prepared by renowned Chef Michael Chiarello for trans-Pacific routes connecting U.S. West coast and Japan**

Delta Air Lines is upgrading its BusinessElite in-flight meals as part of its continuous efforts to improve customer experience.

On flights from the West Coast cities of Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle and San Francisco to and from Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya in Japan, BusinessElite customers are now enjoying new menus designed by Chef Michael Chiarello in Napa Valley, California. The menu selections combine the traditions of the chef's Southern Italian roots with the distinctive hallmarks of the Napa Valley lifestyle.

Chiarello, a renowned chef in the United States, received the Culinary Institute of America's Chef of the Year Award in 1995, and was nominated for "Best Chef: Pacific" by the James Beard Foundation in 2012. He has designed appetizers for the first course, salad for the second, and the main dish of the new BusinessElite menus.

Delta is also upgrading its



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Japanese menu consists of octopus with simmered pumpkin, shrimp and grilled chicken, scallop and red clam, snow crab, sawara fillet, grilled salmon and squid. Due to the popularity of Delta's Japanese meal, customers are encouraged to make reservations which are accepted up to 24 hours prior to the flight.

popular Japanese meal selection, which is available on all trans-Pacific routes, including Japan-Honolulu, Hawaii flights. The Japanese menu has been upgraded for flights departing from Japan since August and will be upgraded for flights departing from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, and New York within the month of September.

In addition, the beer selection is being upgraded with the introduction of the popular Suntory Premium Malt's and Kirin Ichiban. Together with Asahi, all beer selections are available free of charge throughout the aircraft including in the economy class cabin.

and Minneapolis, Delta will introduce a completely refreshed menu designed by Masatoshi Ishimoto, Delta's executive chef at Narita Flight Kitchen, starting Sept. 25. "We have organized a special project team consisting of both U.S. and Japanese chefs to renew the menu on East coast routes. Over the past six months, we have developed, tested, and discussed the menu based on customer and cabin crew feedback," said Masatoshi Ishimoto, Delta's executive chef at the Narita Flight Kitchen. "As for the Japanese course, we have upgraded the menu with contemporary tastes based upon traditional Japanese dishes. Our

focus included the use of high quality food from various parts of Japan and delivering a Japanese sense of seasonality."

Delta operates daily flights connecting Guam, Saipan, and Tokyo-Narita, as well as Guam to Osaka-KIX and Nagoya. Customers flying from Micronesia can connect through Delta's Narita hub to eight U.S. gateway destinations.

With the completion of the menu renewal for the U.S.-Japan routes, Delta is starting a similar renewal of menus on flights between Japan and Asia.

The new menus for intra-Asia flights are scheduled to be introduced early next year.

Delta is the No.1 U.S. airline operating in the Japan market. Delta operates nonstop flights from its Asian hub at the Tokyo-Narita Airport to seven U.S. mainland gateways, four beach resorts—Hawaii, Guam, Saipan, and Palau—and seven destinations in Asia. Delta also operates daily flights from Tokyo-Haneda airport, Osaka's Kansai International Airport, Nagoya's Centrair Airport and Fukuoka Airport. (Delta)



Chef Michael Chiarello

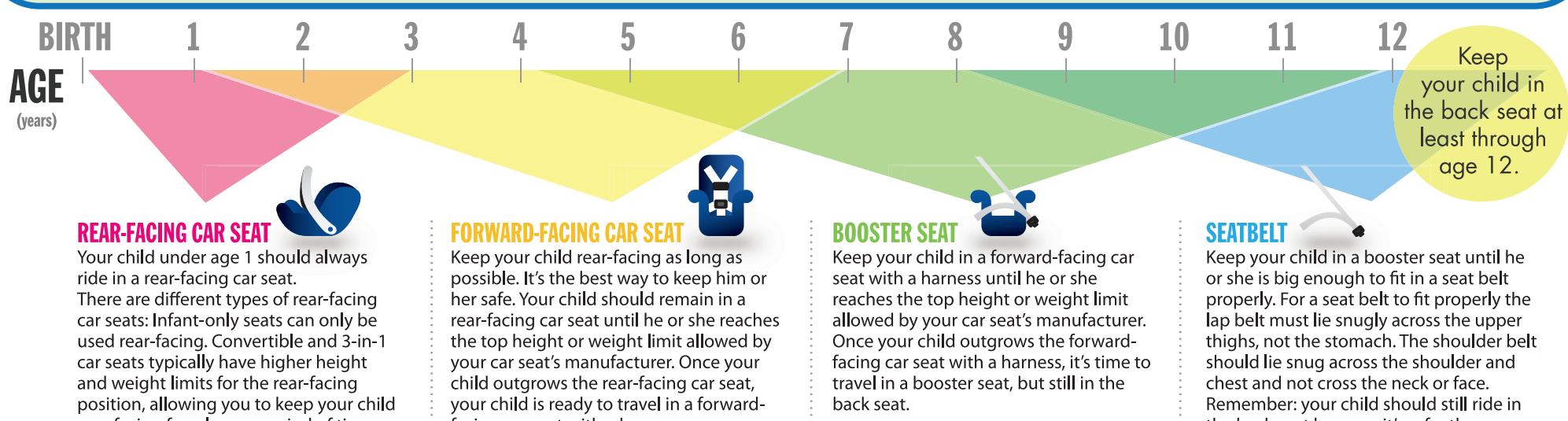


NATIONAL/CNMI CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK SEPTEMBER 15 – 21, 2013



Car Seat Recommendations for Children

- Select a car seat based on your child's age and size, and choose a seat that fits in your vehicle and use it every time.
- Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions; read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt or LATCH system; and check height and weight limits.
- To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.
- Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.



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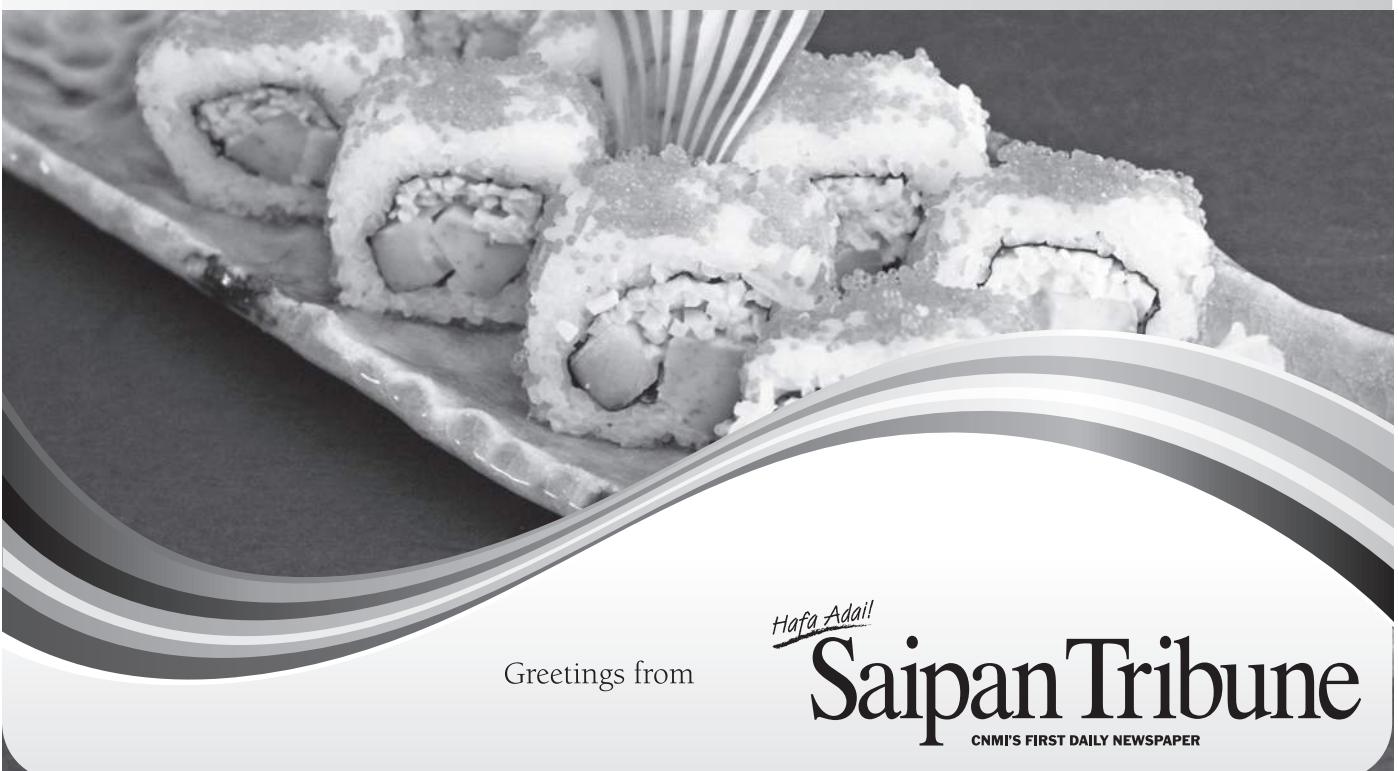
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Greetings from

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

AS LOCAL COUNSEL FOR JOHNSON Woodruff seeks \$1M in fees

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney Stephen C. Woodruff, local counsel for Betty Johnson, submitted yesterday in federal court a petition for approval of his attorney's fees in the amount of \$1,012,500.

Woodruff said that based on his experience in the past year and a half working on Johnson's lawsuit with co-counsel, he believes 10 percent of an award of fees based on a percentage of the benefit-of-the-class of the litigation would be an appropriate share for him.

Woodruff said in the more than 17 months since undertaking his representation for Johnson, he has provided not less than 300 hours of professional services.

He said his standard billing rate for work performed on an hourly basis is \$225 per hour so a lodestar fee computation for him is less than \$67,500, with a multiplier of 15, for a total award of attorney's fees in an amount less than \$1,012,500.

On Tuesday, the Honolulu-based law firm Bronster Hoshibata, one of the counsels for Johnson, asked the court to approve its attorneys' fees and costs totaling \$17.5 million.

Also on Tuesday, attorney Bruce Jorgensen, Johnson's first and current counsel, also requested for approval of his costs in the amount of \$4,643.17. On his attorney's fees, he was not very specific on the amount, but *Saipan Tribune*'s computation with the help of a lawyer showed he was asking for either \$18.6 million, \$29.6 million, or \$38.9 million.

The hearing on Johnson's attorneys' fees and costs will be on Sept. 30, 2013, which is also

Energy program temporarily suspended

The CNMI Energy Division said yesterday that the Residential Weatherization Program is hereby temporarily suspended effective immediately and until further notice. This temporary suspension will allow the CNMI Energy

the date for the final approval of the settlement agreement in her class action.

In his petition, Woodruff said he accepted "extraordinary risk" in undertaking his representation for Johnson and that risk was compounded exponentially by accepting it on a contingency basis.

As local counsel for Johnson, he said he assumed a duty to be familiar with every document and pleading and play an active role in every aspect of the litigation.

He said he contributed substantially to the success achieved on behalf of the class, particularly during the settlement negotiations and by providing off-island counsel with in-depth understanding of location situation, legal history and background, and legal and evidentiary resources.

Woodruff said not only did he accept the risk of reprisal associated with taking on the case, but he has basis to believe that he is in fact "a victim of reprisal from the powerful and persons with conflicting interests as a result of his involvement in this case and his advocacy on behalf of causes unpopular with certain elements of the community, and political and economic elites."

Under the settlement agreement, the CNMI government agreed to pay Johnson's attorneys' fees and costs, and a \$7,500 service award for bringing the lawsuit on behalf of other class members against the NMI Retirement Fund and the government.

U. S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood preliminarily approved the settlement agreement in Johnson's lawsuit on Aug. 6.

Navy awards \$23M contract for base housing upgrades

SANTA RITA, Guam—Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas awarded on Sept. 11, 2013, a \$23.8 million firm-fixed price task order to Tutor Perini Corp., a large business, for whole house revitalization work at Lockwood Terrace family housing units at Naval Base Guam.

The 60-unit housing improvement project involves multiple upgrades that include reconfiguration of interior living spaces such as living rooms, dining areas, kitchens, hallways, bedrooms, bathrooms, and family rooms. Additionally, existing carports will be turned into

Division Office to reconcile all program applications and services.

For more information, contact the Energy Division – Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program office at 664-4487/89/90. (PR)

Five percent of the Lockwood housing units will be converted into accessible units to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act/Architectural Barrier Act.

"This project speaks volumes of the strides we continue to make to ensure Guam is a first-class duty destination," said Capt. Mike Ward, Naval Base Guam commanding officer. "The planned renovations will help modernize critical housing facilities for the base and more importantly further enhance the quality of life for our sailors and families." (USN)

MINA Green Gala is a resounding success



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, center, poses at the Green Gala paparazzi booth with, from left to right, Division of Environmental Quality director Frank Rebauliman, Divana Dela Cruz, Rima Yamagishi, Somia Quan, Jihan Buniag, and Les Ogomoro-Uludong.

The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance was overwhelmed at the resounding success and overwhelming support shown at its 2nd Annual Green Gala fundraising event held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa's Hibiscus Hall this past Saturday, Sept. 7.

Community members, including teachers, the business community, government of-

ficials, lawmakers and concerned citizens, opened their wallets and turned out, dressed to the nines, to show their support for MINA's various community projects, including the Tasi Watch Program, the Environmental Camp Project, the Adopt-A-Bin Program, and the upcoming Managaha Pride Campaign.

As a result of the commu-

nity's generous contributions, MINA grossed over \$42,000, including \$20,000 cash raised and \$22,000 from in-kind donations. This money will be used to continue MINA's efforts to preserve and protect the CNMI's fragile environment and biodiversity.

For more information on its projects, visit www.minapacific.org or call 233-REEF. (MINA)

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Business

Applying for health insurance? Homework involved

WASHINGTON (AP): Getting covered through President Barack Obama's health care law might feel like a combination of doing your taxes and making a big purchase that requires research.

You'll need accurate income information for your household, plus some understanding of how health insurance works, so you can get the financial assistance you qualify for and pick a health plan that's right for your needs.

The process involves federal agencies verifying your identity, citizenship and income, and you have to sign that you are providing truthful information, subject to perjury laws.

You heard it was going to be like buying airline tickets online? Not quite. But even if the process triggers some anxiety, it's not the government poking in your medical records, as "Obamacare" foes have suggested.

After state health insurance markets open Oct. 1, consumers can apply online, via a call center, in person or by mail. Trained helpers are supposed to be available, but there may not be enough of them.

The main steps are:

- Identify yourself and your family members.
- Provide current information on income, jobs and any available health insurance options.

- Learn how much financial assistance you're entitled to.
- Shop for a health plan and enroll.

Many people, ranging from lower-income workers to the solid middle class, will qualify for tax credits to help buy a private plan through the state markets. The government will send money directly to your insurer, and you'll make arrangements to pay any remaining premium.

The poor and near-poor will be steered to Medicaid in states that agree to expand that program.

Here's an overview of what to expect applying online, with tips:

Go to healthcare.gov and click on "Get Insurance." The site has links to every state market. You'll set up an account and password. You'll provide your contact information and the best way to reach you.

Tip: Treat your password like a bank account or credit card password. It's not a good idea to set it as "1234567."

Now you can tackle the actual application. You'll need birth dates and Social Security numbers for yourself and other family members listed on your federal tax return.

You'll also be asked if you're a citizen. Legal immigrants will need their immigration documents.

Tip: You don't have to plow through the entire application in one sitting. You can save your work and come back later.

Next, you'll be asked about income.

You may need your most recent tax return, pay stubs and details on other kinds of income, such as alimony, pensions and rents. You can still apply if you haven't filed a tax return. You'll also be asked about access to health insurance through your job. You may be required to take that insurance if available.

Your personal and income details will be routed through a new government entity called the data services hub, which will ping agencies like Social Security, Homeland Security and the Internal Revenue Service for verification. The feds will also rely on a major private credit reporting company to verify income and employment.

How smoothly all this works is one of the big unknowns. It could get tedious if discrepancies take time to resolve.

Tip: Provide the most accurate estimate of your expected income for 2014. Lowball the number, and you might see a smaller tax refund in 2015. Overestimate and you won't get as big a tax credit now.

If you're like most people,

you'll be getting a tax credit to help pay your premiums. The credits are based on your income and keyed to the premium for a benchmark plan known as the "second-lowest cost silver plan" in your area.

With your tax credit, you can finally shop for insurance. Beware: you'll probably have to live with your decision until the next annual enrollment period.

You'll have up to four levels of coverage to consider: bronze, silver, gold and platinum. Plans at every "metal level" cover the same benefits and have a cap of \$6,350 a year in out-of-pocket expenses for an individual, \$12,700 for families.

Bronze plans generally have

the lowest premiums, but cover only 60 percent of medical costs on average. Policyholders will pay the difference, up to the annual out-of-pocket cap. Platinum plans have the highest premiums, but cover 90 percent of costs. Young adults up to age 30 can pick a skinny "catastrophic" plan: but you can't use your tax credit on a catastrophic plan.

Tip: Make sure your doctors and hospitals are in the plan you pick. You may have to check the plan's own website, or call your doctor.

Tip: Your share of the premium could be lower: even zero: if you apply your tax credit to a bronze plan. It's because the credit is keyed to the cost of a

silver plan, which is generally more expensive.

Tip: Check if you are eligible for "cost-sharing subsidies," in addition to your tax credit. Extra help with out-of-pocket costs is available to people with modest incomes. But only with a silver plan.

Head spinning?

Richard Onizuka, director of the Washington state market, says picking a plan could be the most difficult step. Most of his customers were previously uninsured, so insurance jargon could seem like a foreign language.

"The biggest challenge for consumers will be understanding health insurance and how to purchase it," he said.

BOG'S Wade, Camacho are newest banking school graduates

services community.

Wade, vice president/corporate banking group, joined Bank of Guam in 1997 as a management trainee. Starting as a credit officer with the bank's Corporate Banking Department for five years, Wade then managed the bank's Santa Cruz, Harmon and Hagatna headquarters branches before returning to Corporate Banking. A summa cum laude graduate of the University of Washington, Seattle, Wade is an alumna of the Academy of Our Lady of Guam and has also completed the American Bankers Association's Na-

tional Commercial Lending School in Dallas, Texas.

Camacho began his employment as a summer intern before joining Bank of Guam full-time in 1993 as a management trainee. He has worked in the Saipan, Harmon, and Upper Tumon branches before becoming branch manager in Tamuning. He is currently the vice president/northern regional manager for Guam. Camacho is an alumnus of Father Duenas Memorial High School and a graduate of Aquinas College. Camacho is a member of the Navy League of Guam. (BOG)

Nation

Nation pauses on 9/11 to pay tribute to victims

NEW YORK (AP)—Life in lower Manhattan resembled any ordinary day on Wednesday as workers rushed to their jobs in the muggy heat, but time stood still at the World Trade Center site while families wept for loved ones who perished in the terror attacks 12 years ago.

For the families, the memories of that day are still vivid, the pain still acute. Some who read the names of a beloved big brother or a cherished daughter could hardly speak through their tears.

"Has it really been 12 years? Or 12 days? Sometimes it feels the same," said Michael Fox, speaking aloud to his brother, Jeffrey, who perished in the south tower. "Sometimes I reach for the phone so I can call you, and we can talk about our kids like we used to do every day."

On the memorial plaza overlooking two reflecting pools in the imprint of the twin towers, relatives recited the names of the nearly 3,000 people who died when hijacked jets crashed into the towers, the Pentagon and in a field near Shanksville, Pa. They also recognized the victims of the 1993 trade center bombing.

Bells tolled to mark the planes hitting the towers and the moments when the skyscrapers fell. "Tribute in Light" searchlights, turned on at sunset, illuminated the skies where the twin towers once stood.

In Washington, President Barack Obama, first lady Michelle Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and wife Jill Biden walked out to the White House's South Lawn for a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m.—the time the first plane struck the north tower in New York. Another jetliner struck the Pentagon at 9:37 a.m.



In this photo made with a long exposure, a test of the twin beams of the Tribute in Light intersect with still-under construction Tower One as they rise behind the building and above lower Manhattan, Monday, Sept. 9, 2013, in New York.

she said. "Today, you are 40. You are forever young. Dad and I are proud to be your parents."

The anniversary arrived amid changes at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, where construction started Tuesday on a new visitor center. On Wednesday, the families of the passengers and crew aboard United Flight 93 recalled their loved ones as heroes for their unselfish and quick actions. The plane was hijacked with the likely goal of crashing it into the White House or Capitol, but passengers tried to overwhelm the attackers and the plane crashed into the field. All aboard died.

"In a period of 22 minutes, our loved ones made history," said Gordon Felt, president of the Families of Flight 93, whose brother, Edward, was a passenger.

Outside Washington, hundreds of people gathered for a short, simple ceremony at an Arlington County plaza three miles from the Pentagon. First responders from the county were among the first on the scene that day.

Fire Chief James Schwartz said ceremonies like Wednesday's—which featured an honor guard and a moment of silence—serve as a reminder of why first responders spend so much time preparing for disaster.

White House says Russian prestige on the line in Syria

WASHINGTON (AP)—The

White House tried Wednesday to pin the success or failure of a diplomatic option to secure Syria's chemical weapons on Russia rather than the United States as Secretary of State John Kerry headed for Geneva to work on a Russian proposal for international inspectors to seize and destroy the deadly stockpile.

On a different diplomatic front aimed at taking control of the stockpile away from the Assad government, the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council met Wednesday at Russia's U.N. mission to consider goals for a new resolution requiring Syria's chemical weapons to be dismantled.



Obama

wave of terrorism."

Rebels who had hoped U.S.-led strikes against the Syrian government would aid their effort expressed disappointment, if not condemnation of the U.S., over President Barack Obama's decision to pursue diplomacy in the wake of a chemical weapons attack in the Damascus suburbs last month that the U.S. says killed more than 1,400 people.

"We're on our own," Mohammad Joud, an opposition fighter in the war-shattered northern city of Aleppo, said via Skype. "I always knew that, but thanks to Obama's shameful conduct, others are waking up to this reality as well."

With the American public focus on diplomacy rather than military might, Vice President Joe Biden and senior White House officials summoned House Democrats and Republicans for classified briefings. The sessions followed up Obama's nationally televised address Tuesday night in which he kept the threat of U.S. airstrikes on the table and said it was too early to say whether the Russian offer would succeed.



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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS STATEMENTS for CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

for the TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT RFQ13-GOV-163 (Amended)

Governor Eloy S. Inos, and Lieutenant Governor Jude Hoffschneider, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified consultants to provide Construction Management (CM) services for the Tinian International Airport Improvements Project, located on Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Project construction plans, specifications, and the complete Scope of Work for CM services required will be available (on CD-ROM) on **Friday, September 6, 2013** at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. A non-refundable payment of Twenty-Five Dollars (US \$25.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer, and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the RFQ package at the CIP Office.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2013**, at the Governor's conference room, first floor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Questions regarding this RFQ must be submitted in writing to Mr. Timothy R. Lang, CIP Project Manager, at trlang@yahoo.com, or via fax to (670) 664-2408, no later than **4:00 p.m. ChST Tuesday, September 17, 2013**.

Statements of professional qualification from interested firms must address, and will be evaluated on, the following criteria:

- Overall construction management experience in the Western Pacific Region, and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (20%)
- Specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required and previous experience with projects similar in scope (20%)
- Key personnel's professional qualifications, experience and availability for the proposed services; their professional integrity and competence; and their knowledge of FAA regulations, policies and procedures (20%)
- Past performance on similar projects, including cost control, ability to meet schedules, and quality of completed construction (20%)
- Current workload and demonstrated ability to perform the project Scope of Work (20%)

Statements of qualifications must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, and be licensed to practice architecture and/or engineering in the CNMI.

Firms shall submit an estimate of CM fees based upon a 15-month project schedule (12-month construction plus 3-month close-out). Fee estimates will assist the CIP Office for budgeting purposes, but will not be considered in firm evaluation scores.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and five (5) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:00 p.m. Monday, September 30, 2013**.

Interviews will be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked "RFQ13-GOV-163, Construction Management Services for the Tinian International Airport Improvements Project". One (1) original and five (5) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP, no later than **4:00 p.m. ChST, Monday, September 30, 2013**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/Eloy S. Inos, Governor

/s/Herman S. Sablan, Director of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Municipality of Tinian and Aguijan
P.O. Box 520059
Tinian MP 96952
Tel: (670) 433-2200 • Fax: (670) 433-1819
Email:tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 9 a.m. at the Mayor's Conference Room, 1st floor, in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

- PRELIMINARY**
 - Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Adoption of Agenda
 - Adoption of Minutes
- PUBLIC COMMENTS¹**
- EXECUTIVE SESSION²**
- NEW BUSINESS**
 - Review and Approval of Fall 2013 Scholarship Application
 - Approval of Fall 2013 Award Disbursement
 - Discussion and recommendation on Board vacancy
- ELECTION OF OFFICERS**
 - Chairman
 - Vice Chairman
 - Secretary/Treasurer
- MISCELLANEOUS MATTER**
- ADJOURNMENT**

/s/ **LYDIA F. BARCINAS³**
Chairwoman

¹ We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.
² Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912. The Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.
³ Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**TAPAN SHAHA,] FCD-DI-CIVIL
Petitioner,] ACTION NO.
[13-0365**

vs.] SUMMONS

**FIANA MOSES,]
Respondent,]**

TO THE ABOVE NAMED
RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is served upon you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Tapan Shaha whose address is P.O. Box 506011, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2013:

/s/ Clerk of Court

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**MD SHAZEDUR,] FCD-DI-CIVIL
RAHMAN,] ACTION NO.
Petitioner,] 13-0366**

**vs.] SUMMONS
FOR
PUBLICATION**

**EDNA KILLION,]
Respondent,]**

TO THE ABOVE NAMED
RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 505775, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2013:

/s/ Clerk of Court

Asia

Philippine rebels attack 2nd southern town

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines

(AP)—Philippine troops battled Muslim rebels on two fronts Thursday, after the insurgents attacked a second town near the southern port where they are holding scores of residents hostage in a standoff with government forces.

The rebels attacked predominantly Christian outskirts of Lamitan town in Basilan province on Thursday morning, said Vice Mayor Roderick Furigay. Five people were missing and

two wounded, he said.

A regional governor, Mujiv Hataman, said that the assault was repulsed. Authorities said earlier they were monitoring the movement of rebel forces in that area and Hataman said that residents had already evacuated Wednesday.

Basilan island province is a boat ride away from Zamboanga city, where Moro National Liberation Front fighters have been holding their hostage since Monday, when government

troops repulsed their attempt to erect a rebel flag at city hall.

The three-day crisis has virtually paralyzed Zamboanga, a lively trading city of nearly a million people, with most flights and ferry services suspended. Communities near the clashes resembled a war zone, with armored troop carriers lining streets, troops massing at a school and snipers taking positions atop buildings. A mosque and its minaret were pockmarked with bullet holes.

Nearly 15,000 villagers have fled from the fighting and took shelter at a grandstand in a seaside sports complex and schools. Troops were under orders to prevent the rebels from straying beyond the communities they have seized or getting reinforcements, Interior Secretary Mar Roxas said.

The rebels signed a peace deal in 1996, but their faction leader accuses the government of renegeing on a promise to develop the impoverished, restive region. The rebel leader, Nur Misuari, has isolated himself

and set out on a collision course with the government when he voiced opposition to the ongoing peace talks between the Philippines and the currently-dominant rebel movement, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

The talks have steadily progressed toward a new and potentially larger Muslim autonomy deal, but Misuari felt left out. Last month, his group issued new threats to secede by establishing its own republic.

At least nine combatants and villagers have been killed since the standoff in Zamboanga began, officials said. President Benigno Aquino III has sent top Cabinet officials and his military chief of staff to oversee the security crisis in the country's restive south, the scene of decades-long Muslim unrest in this predominantly Roman Catholic nation.

Misuari has not appeared in public or issued any statement since his followers barged into Zamboanga city's coast early Monday and clashed with soldiers and police.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Institute: NKorea nuke reactor likely restarting

WASHINGTON (AP)—A recent satellite image appears to show North Korea is restarting a plutonium reactor, in a move that could raise renewed international alarm over its nuclear weapons program, a U.S. research institute said Wednesday. The 5 megawatt reactor at the Nyongbyon nuclear facility was shuttered in 2007 under the terms of a disarmament agreement. Pyongyang announced plans in April to restart it amid a litany of threats toward the U.S. and South Korea after it faced tougher international censure over its latest nuclear and rocket tests. Wednesday's finding by the U.S.-Korea Institute at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies is a sign that the regime of Kim Jong Un is pressing ahead with its nuclear program.

Japan hangs murder convict; 6th execution of year

TOKYO (AP)—Japan on Thursday hanged a 73-year-old man convicted of murder and robbery, the country's sixth execution of the year. The Justice Ministry said the hanging was carried out in Tokyo. The man had shot to death a restaurant owner in 2004, stealing his bag containing 400,000 yen (\$4,000) in cash. Japan executed three inmates in February and two in April. There are 132 inmates currently on death row. All executions in the country are done by hanging.

Prosecutor calls for death in Delhi bus rape case

NEW DELHI (AP)—Saying their crime shocked the conscience of India, the prosecutor in the fatal New Delhi gang rape called Wednesday for all four convicted rapists to be hanged, while one of the defendants shouted out his innocence as police drove him into the courthouse. It was not clear which of the four men was shouting, because his face was obscured behind the police van's heavy metal mesh, but he repeatedly called out, "I am innocent! I am innocent!" as the van drove past a scrum of reporters. The men were convicted Tuesday in the December gang rape of a 23-year-old woman on a moving New Delhi bus, a brutal crime that unleashed a wave of public anger over the treatment of Indian women and a long-unspoken epidemic of sexual violence. The victim died two weeks after the attack.

Death toll from Chinese explosion rises to 7

BEIJING (AP)—Authorities in a southern Chinese city said Wednesday that a deadly explosion was sparked while workers unloaded banned caps for children's toy guns and that the toll from the blast rose to seven dead and 36 injured. Tuesday's blast was ruled accidental, the Guangzhou Internet Information office said. Police detained three people, including a Jordanian man who owned the product, following the blast in Guangzhou, southern China's commercial hub, the official Xinhua News Agency said. The blast went off in a truck container and then set fire to a nearby warehouse, sending up huge plumes of smoke.



PUBLIC NOTICE Parole Hearing

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofsneider, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a **Parole Hearing** is scheduled for **September 23, 2013, (Monday)** beginning at **10:00 A.M.**, and if needed be to continue on **September 24, 2013, (Tuesday)** at **9:00 A.M.** at the Multi-Purpose Center, Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan.

The following items are included in the agenda:

- I. Preliminary Matters
- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Presence of Quorum
- II. Consent Items
- 1. Adoption of Agenda
- III. Parole Application
- 1. Arinna A. Reiong
- 2. Ray Anthony Babauta
- 3. Norna Tipingeni
- IV. Re-Parole Application
- 1. Oscar R. Babauta
- BOP No. 13-006
- Criminal Case No. 11-0251E
- BOP No. 13-007
- 09-0231
- BOP No. 13-008
- 11-0251E
- RA-11-003
- 97-0031
- V. Miscellaneous
- 1. Other Matters
- VI. Adjournment

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Ramon B. Camacho
Chairman Date: 9/11/2013



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MVA-RFP-13-2323

For: Purchase and Installation of Optical Mark Reflex Scanner System for the Marianas Visitors Authority

Closing Date: September 24, 2013 Time: 4:30 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (closed 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymananas.com. A pre-poser meeting will take place on September 10, 2013 at 9:00a.m. at the Marianas Visitors Authority.

/s/ HERMAN SABLON
Director, P&S /s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director



PUBLIC NOTICE Executive Meeting

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofsneider, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a Executive Meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2013, (Tuesday) beginning at 9:00 A.M., at the Multi-Purpose Center, Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan.

The following items are included in the agenda:

- I. Preliminary Matters
- A) Call to order
- B) Roll Call
- C) Presence of Quorum
- II. Consent Items
- A) Review/Adoption of Agenda
- B) Adoption of Executive Meeting Minutes – May 15, 2013
- III. New Business
- A) Chairman's Report
- B) Chief of Parole's Report
- IV. Old Business
- A) Board Policy on the Conduct of Executive Meeting and Parole Hearings
- B) Commonwealth Constitution: Article III
Re: Section 9: Executive Functions
(c) Reprieves, Commutations and Pardons
- C) Board's Drug Testing Policy
- D) Board's Rules and Regulations Status
- V. Miscellaneous
- A) Other Matters
- VI. Adjournment

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Ramon B. Camacho
Chairman Date: 09/11/13



CAREER FAIR

- Airport Representatives
- Guest Service Representatives
- Guest Relation Officer
- VIP Hosts
- Surveillance Operators
- Cage Tellers
- Casino Dealers
- Accounting Clerks
- Cooks
- Waitstaff (Waiter/Waitress)
- Bar Attendant
- Life Guards
- Housekeeping Attendant
- Security Officer

- Computer Technician
- Storekeeper
- A/C Technicians
- Plumber
- Electrician
- Mechanic
- Carpenter

Other positions are also available.

Be prepared, bring your resume and all pertinent documents, and come to IMPRESS and READY for interview.



TINIAN
September 18, 2013
10am to 4pm
Dynasty Court (Chinese Restaurant)
Tinian Dynasty Hotel Lobby

SAIPAN
September 19, 2013
10am to 5pm
Chamolinian Room
Hyatt Regency - Saipan

World

Suicide bombs hit Egypt military in Sinai, kill nine

EL-ARISH, Egypt (AP)—In near-simultaneous attacks, a pair of suicide bombers rammed their explosives-laden cars into military targets in Egypt's volatile Sinai Peninsula on Wednesday, killing at least nine soldiers and nudging the conflict there closer to a full-blown insurgency.

The bombings in the town of Rafah on the border with the Gaza Strip appear to be a deadly response by insurgents to a military crackdown on their north Sinai hideouts that has reportedly left over three dozen dead.

Suicide attacks are a new element in the wave of political violence triggered initially by the ouster of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi on July 3, and intensified by a violent crackdown on his supporters' protest camps. They suggest that al-Qaida-inspired groups may be developing a new capability to strike at security and other targets, both in Sinai and elsewhere in Egypt.

One of the two bombings in the town of Rafah brought down a two-story building housing the local branch of military intelligence. It collapsed the entire structure, two security officials said, speaking anonymously because they were not authorized to talk to the media. They said no bodies were found under the rubble, but the attack left 10 soldiers and seven civilians, three of them women, wounded.

The second attack targeted an armored personnel carrier at an army checkpoint not far from the intelligence headquarters, the officials added.

The officials said the remains of the two suicide bombers have been recovered. The officials gave a death toll of nine for both attacks but did not say how many were killed in each.

“The use of car bombs and suicide attacks in a new turn,” military spokesman Col. Ahmed Mohammed Ali told The Associated Press. He said the bombings appear to be revenge for the Sinai offensive, which he said hurt the militants by destroying weapons and ammunition caches.

“This will not stop us, but will increase our determination to confront terrorism,” he said.

The attacks come less than a week after a suicide car bombing targeted the convoy of Interior Minister Mohammed Ibrahim, who is in charge of the police, shortly after he left his east Cairo home. Ibrahim escaped unharmed but a civilian was killed.

One of the al-Qaida-inspired groups based in Sinai, Ansar Jerusalem, later claimed responsibility for that bombing. The claim was never verified. If true, it would be the first time a Sinai-based group carried a suicide attack in the heart of Cairo.

Diplomats move on 2 fronts on Syria weapons

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Key international players were moving on two diplomatic fronts Wednesday to try to put Syria's chemical weapons under international control, and a fresh effort appeared to be underway to get the government and opposition to peace talks.

The five veto-wielding members of the Security Council, who have been deeply divided over Syria, met late Wednesday to discuss what to include in a new resolution requiring that Syria's chemical weapons stock-

pile be secured and dismantled. They later left Russia's U.N. mission without commenting.

At the same time, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov were heading to Geneva with teams of experts for broader-ranging talks Thursday about the nuts and bolts of putting Syria's chemical weapons under international control and destroying them, diplomats said.

The U.N.-Arab League envoy for Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi,

was also heading to Geneva to be available to meet Kerry and Lavrov, whose efforts to start peace talks to end the 2 1/2-year Syrian conflict have been stymied by a government offensive and a deadly suspected poison gas attack on Aug. 21.

The diplomatic flurry follows the threat of U.S. strikes against President Bashar Assad's regime and a surprise offer from Kerry that Syria could avert U.S. military action by turning over “every single bit of his chemical

weapons” to international control within a week. Russia, Syria's most important ally, and Assad's government quickly agreed on the broad proposal, but details still need to be worked out.

In an opinion piece for The New York Times, Russian President Vladimir Putin called for caution in dealing with Syria, saying that a potential strike by the U.S. would create more victims and could spread the conflict beyond Syria and unleash a wave of terrorism.

Catalans form human chain in Spain separation bid

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—More than 1 million people showed their support for Catalan independence Wednesday by joining hands to form a 400-kilometer (250-mile) human chain across the northeastern region of Spain.

The demonstration on the region's annual public holiday aimed to illustrate the strength of local backing for political efforts to break away from Spain. The Catalan regional government estimated 1.6 million people in the region of 7.5 million residents took part in the human chain, many of them with red, yellow and blue pro-independence flags draped around their shoulders.

“Today is a historic day. The

Catalan people have reaffirmed their determination to be a free state,” said Carme Forcadell, president of the Catalan National Assembly, which organized the human chain.

The protest in Catalonia was peaceful, but a small group of Spanish fascists in Madrid stormed their way into the office of the Catalan government's delegation building in the capital.

Television images showed about 10 men with Spanish fascist flags shouting, pushing people, knocking over furniture and hitting a journalist's TV camera. They yelled “Catalonia is Spain!” and quickly left, but reportedly opened a tear gas container, forcing the 100 or so people gathered

there to evacuate.

During Francisco Franco's fascist dictatorship from 1939-

1975, the Catalan language was banned in schools, publishing and from public use.



Northern Marianas College

P.O. Box 501250 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6858/6855
Fax: (670) 235-3696
Website: <http://www.nmcnet.edu>

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement No. 13-033

POSITION TITLE: Counselor (Disability Support Services)
Pay Level & Step: 32/01 – 32/12
Annual Salary: \$28,803.12 - \$45,632.49
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: 09/04/2013 Closing Date: 09/19/2013

Announcement No. 13-034

POSITION TITLE: Personnel Specialist I-II
Pay Level & Step: 24/01 – 26/12
Annual Salary: \$17,689.31 - \$32,539.26
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: 09/04/2013
Closing Date: 09/19/2013

Announcement No. 13-035

POSITION TITLE: Executive Director, NMC Foundation (Half-time)
Pay Level & Step: Ungraded
Hourly Wage: \$24.03 - \$28.84
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: 9/10/2013
Closing Date: 9/25/2013
Pending availability of funds

Announcement No. 13-036

POSITION TITLE: Executive Secretary II, NMC Foundation (Half-time)
Pay Level & Step: 32/01 – 32/08
Hourly Wage: \$12.37 - \$17.12
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: 9/10/2013
Closing Date: 9/25/2013
Pending availability of funds

Applications must be submitted by 4:30 pm on the closing date. If there are no qualified applicants or the set of qualified applicants is deemed an insufficient pool, the closing date will be extended for two-week periods for further submission and review of applications until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day. Advertised salary range represents the first step in the lowest applicable grade through the last step in the highest applicable grade. Annual salary upon initial appointment will generally be the first step in the applicable grade based upon education and experience. A higher step within the applicable grade, up to Step 12, may be selected in the event the College experiences difficulty in recruiting. All salaries are subject to availability of funds.



The Saipan Chamber of Commerce

has an opening for

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a private, non-profit organization. Its purpose is to further the interests of business, as well as to promote quality of life and economic progress, in Saipan.

The **Executive Director** reports directly to the Chamber Board of Directors and manages and administers the Chamber Office.

Responsibilities:

- Manage the Chamber office and serve as custodian of Chamber funds
- Organize and attend Board of Directors meetings and Committee meetings and activities
- Plan and coordinate Chamber activities throughout the year
- Coordinate internal and external communications
- Prepare monthly newsletter
- Maintain Chamber websites
- Research pending legislative bills and prepare comments
- Respond to inquiries from members, non-members, residents, tourists, prospective businesses and others
- Promote Chamber membership within the business community

The applicant must have the following minimum qualifications:

- Resident of the CNMI/USA
- BA in Business Administration or equivalent
- Strong work ethic and customer service orientation
- Self-motivating
- Ability to work with a team
- Excellent organization and office skills
- Experience with computer systems/software (spreadsheets, word processing, desktop publishing)

Chamber office hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday; however, this is a salaried position and hours will vary.

Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. Qualified individuals should submit a resume and application to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office, 1st floor, Family Building in Garapan or contact 233-7150 for more information. Deadline for submission is September 20, 2013.

Science & Technology

Raising children without going broke

By REID KANALEY
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Parenting costs money, and usually much more than parents ever expect. Get informed so you don't have to do quite so much muddling through the expensive issues involved in raising children.

■ The money page at Parenting.com has tips on how to teach your children about money and how much it will cost to have and raise a child. There's practical advice on getting credit for children at tax time. And there is a link to a gallery of "ridiculous parenting products" that, in the writer's opinion, are a waste of

money. These include toddler helmets, leashes, and a baby tub shaped like Mom's tummy. <http://bit.ly/I9SfBN>

■ A child costs \$15,000 a year, on average, according to this "money" page at Parent.com. But the linked post says not to panic; there are ways to cut that by a substantial amount. For example, when it comes to a stroller, "Why drop \$800 on a fancy ride when you can pick up a good one for \$200?" Or hold off on sending your child to preschool at age 2. Instead, "You can easily create a stimulating environment at home and provide lots of opportunities for playdates with friends to help

prepare children for kindergarten," the post says, quoting Barbara Willer, spokeswoman for the National Association for the Education of Young Children. <http://bit.ly/emcSWq>

■ Mistakes parents make when it comes to children and money, listed at Kiplinger.com, include "caving in to kids' every request," "Neglecting to give kids guidance on managing money," and "Failing to make kids work for their money." This post says parents sometimes think it's better to ask a child to concentrate on schoolwork rather than get a job, but "A 16-year-old could certainly have a summer job to help cover

his own expenses without jeopardizing his schoolwork." <http://bit.ly/14xhALV>

■ On another side of that issue, it can be tricky for children to ask parents for money, and this post at About.com advises college students on how to finesse the delicate negotiations. Things to consider: Be upfront about whether you're getting a gift or a loan; honesty is the best policy; be grateful, and "Think about how to avoid your situation again." <http://abt.cm/KyaT1A>

■ When aging parents have money problems, grown children may have to switch roles with the folks to deal with the fallout. A

post at AARP.org explains how complicated and expensive that can be for everyone involved. The way to avoid trouble is to get the lines of communication opened before everyone is staring a crisis in the face. It takes tact to get

a parent talking honestly about money. At the start, it may be necessary to write a letter explaining "how much you care about your mom and that you want to plan ahead so her life goes smoothly." <http://bit.ly/15Jgk7y>

Yahoo CEO: Company now has 800M users

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Yahoo CEO Marissa Mayer says the Internet company now has about 800 million worldwide users, a 20 percent increase since she was lured away from Google 15 months ago to steer a turnaround.

The gain disclosed Wednesday at a technology conference in San Francisco is the latest evidence of the progress that Yahoo Inc. is making under Mayer's leadership. The Sunnyvale, Calif., company's stock has nearly doubled since Mayer came aboard, though she and analysts say that gain primarily stems from the value of Yahoo's holdings in China's rapidly growing Alibaba Group.

Mayer says the figure for the

800 million Yahoo users doesn't include the traffic that the company has picked up from its \$1.1 billion acquisition of Internet blogging service Tumblr earlier this year.

Despite the increased traffic, Yahoo is still struggling to boost its online advertising revenue—the main way that the company makes money. In recent quarters, Yahoo's ad revenue has been barely rising while Google and another rival, Facebook Inc., have been thriving.

Mayer says she believes it her strategy for accelerating Yahoo's revenue growth will require at least three years to unfold.

Yahoo's stock shed 29 cents Wednesday to close at \$29.19.

Q & A

Bloggers may not own their own words

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I am thinking about starting a blog for profit on a shoestring budget. I know that Google's Blogger service is free, but I wonder how using it affects my intellectual property. Would I retain full ownership of what I write on Blogger, both financially and intellectually?—Perkins Cashio, Maringouin, La.

ANSWER: Google says yes, but I don't think it's that clear-cut. Google gives contradictory statements about intellectual property in its terms of service for Blogger and its other services. As a result, you may not have control over how your words are altered or used.

Google's terms of service, at <http://tinyurl.com/csfnam>, say, "You retain ownership of any intellectual property rights that you hold in that content. In short, what belongs to you stays yours."

While that sounds good, Google's terms of service also say, "When you upload or otherwise submit content to our services, you give Google (and those we work with) a worldwide license to use, host, store, reproduce, modify, create derivative works (such as those resulting from translations, adaptations or other changes we make so that your content works better with our services), communicate, publish, publicly perform, publicly display and distribute such content."

So it seems Blogger can use your material any way it wants without consulting you.

Q: My Brother printer that uses LC61 print cartridges has quit working. It just shuts down. The only way to fix it is to return my Windows Vista PC settings to an earlier date using System Restore, but after a few days the printer quits again. What should I do?—Harry Fradin, Tamarac, Fla.

A: You may need to replace the printer. But first try these potential fixes.

Check the expiration dates on the LC61 printer cartridges. Depending on how "smart" your printer is, it might refuse to use ink cartridges that are expired. (System Restore may give you a few extra days before the expiration date is checked again.)

In addition, use your printer's automatic ability to clean the nozzles on your print cartridges. If a nozzle is clogged, you would either get a faint print or no print at all. See step by step instructions at <http://tinyurl.com/ow6rrp>.

Alternatively, you may need to update your print

er's driver software so that it works well with Windows Vista. To find the free driver software, go to <http://tinyurl.com/2sjj8w> and enter the model number of your printer. If you don't know the model number, click on "How to identify your model," choose the picture that looks like your printer and you'll get an illustration of where on the machine to find the model number.

Once you find the correct download for your printer, you'll need to enter which version of Windows Vista your PC uses, 32-bit or 64-bit. To find out which one you have, go to Start, choose Control Panel and click System.



First Year Death Anniversary
In Loving Memory of
†Joselyn Tara
Mafnas Sablan
Lovingly known as "Jos"

We, the family, humbly invite all of our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the passing of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Mass of Intentions are being offered at San Jose Church in Oleai beginning September 12 thru September 20, 2013 at 6:00AM. Except for Sunday, September 15, 2013, Mass will be offered at 7:30AM.

On the final day Friday, September 20, 2013. Mass of Intentions will be offered at 6:00AM.

Your presence, thoughts, and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Thank You

Joseph & Rosa Mafnas Sablan,
Children and Family

Off the Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Wash. firefighters rescue man stuck in chimney

TACOMA, Wash. (AP)—Firefighters chiseled a hole through bricks early Tuesday to rescue a man who had gotten himself stuck inside a 20-inch wide chimney space at a Washington home that had been converted to apartments. The young man was not hurt and was not suspected of a crime, but it's unclear why he apparently climbed into the unused chimney, Tacoma Battalion Chief Dyre Fudge said. "Stories range from 'hide and seek' to 'repairing the ceiling. Nobody was able to get the straight story," Fudge said.

Hawaii molasses spill killing thousands of fish

HONOLULU (AP)—Workers will collect thousands of dead fish from Honolulu's waters after a leaky pipe caused more than 230,000 gallons of molasses to ooze into the harbor and kill marine life. The state Department of Health said in a statement Wednesday hundreds of fish have been collected so far. It says many more fish are expected to die and thousands will likely be collected. The department is warning people to stay out of the area because the dead fish could attract sharks. The brown, sugary substance spilled Monday from a pipe used to load molasses from storage tanks to ships sailing to California.

Pa. playground closed due to chicken manure spill

MEYERSDALE, Pa. (AP)—A southwestern Pennsylvania borough has indefinitely closed a playground because of lingering contamination from a chicken manure spill last month. The (Somerset) Daily American reports the Meyersdale borough council voted Tuesday night to close the Paul E. Fuller playground. The manure spilled on a hill above the playground Aug. 23, and water flows

onto the playground when it rains, apparently carrying bacteria from the manure. Borough workers treated the area with lime, but say bacteria counts including salmonella haven't decreased. Councilman Roger Miller says his own unscientific methods have confirmed those findings saying, "My nose tells me there's a problem out there."

Girl finds stolen cremation ashes in Pa. park

CLAIRTON, Pa. (AP)—A girl has found cremation ashes that had been stolen from a van belonging to the dead man's son. Robert Smith says he thinks someone in the crime-ridden Pittsburgh suburb of Clairton mistook his father's ashes for a powdery drug like heroin or cocaine. He says, "You know this is a high drug area. ... It's sad." Smith says his father died in June at age 75. Since then, Smith has kept his ashes in a memorial box in the center console of his van. He discovered the ashes missing shortly before 3 p.m. Monday. They were recovered in a park about seven hours later after a girl found them. Police are investigating the theft.

Men dressed as Batman, Capt. America rescue cat

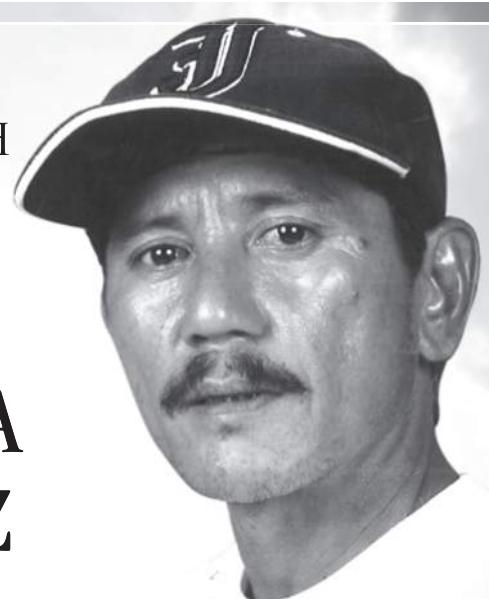
MILTON, W.Va. (AP)—Who says superheroes aren't real? When a West Virginia home caught fire, trapping a kitten inside, it was Batman and Captain America who came to the rescue. John Buckland, dressed as Batman, and Troy Marcum, dressed as Captain America, saw smoke at a house nearby when they were entertaining children as part of their business. They ran to the house along with another bystander, kicked in the door and broke out a window so some smoke could escape. Buckland, a former firefighter, says he crawled into the front room and felt something furry. He grabbed the animal, ran outside and gave it mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of,

†FELIX BORJA VILLAGOMEZ

Lovingly known as "LELI"



We, the family, humbly invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the passing of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Daily Mass is being offered every morning at 6:00AM beginning Monday, September 9 thru Monday, September 16, 2013 at Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Holy Rosary is being said at 7:00PM at the residence of Grace Aldan in Olympio Ave, Chalan Kanoa, District 1.

On the Final Day, Tuesday, September 17, Mass will be offered ad 6:00AM at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Holy Rosary will be said at 6:00PM. Dinner will be served immediately thereafter.

Your presence and prayers will be greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase - Olomwaay - Thank You

Jessica R. Limes, Children and Families



First Year Death Anniversary

In Ever Loving Memory of

†SGT. ROBERT JASON SANTOS DELEON GUERRERO

August 24, 1976 – September 23, 2012

Dearly missed by his Wife, Sons, Daughter, Parents, Siblings, Family members, Friends, and Relatives.

In his 1st year of his new life, †Sgt. Robert Jason Santos Deleon Guerrero's Mass of Intention will be held every morning at 6:00 A.M. and Nightly Rosaries will be said at 7:00 P.M. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral beginning September 15 thru September 22, 2013.

On Monday, September 23, 2013, Holy Rosary will be said at 5:30AM followed by Mass at 6:00AM at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Your prayers and presence is humbly appreciated

**Jennifer C. Deleon Guerrero & Children,
Mr. & Mrs. Florencio (Bobby) T. Deleon Guerrero & Family**

Death Anniversaries

Bringing back their loving memories through a gathering of prayers.

Segundo Tudela Sablan
35th Death Anniversary

Josefina Duenas Sablan
15th Death Anniversary

James. Duenas Sablan
47th Death Anniversary

Please join our family in prayers as we commemorate the death anniversaries of our beloved father, mother & brother.

Daily masses will be held at 6a.m. at the Mount Carmel Cathedral from Thursday, September 12th to 16th Monday (5 days only).

On the final day, Monday, 16th, breakfast will be served at the Joeten Daidai Social Hall immediately after the mass. Please join us.

Your prayers, thoughts and presence will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you

**Jean D. Sablan, Ron D. Sablan, Wm. D. Sablan,
Judi (Ynna) S. Robles, Angela Sablan Yamashita
& their families**

Life & Style

Sans claws, Hugh Jackman rages in 'Prisoners'



AP
This Sept. 7, 2013 photo shows Hugh Jackman, a cast member in the film "Prisoners," on day 3 of the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto.

TORONTO (AP)—Hugh Jackman may spend an inordinate amount of time playing a mutant wolf superhero, but even the Australian actor realizes his image is somewhat defanged.

Whether it's because he hasn't shied away from musicals, on Broadway and in "Les Misérables," or because Jackman happens to be a charmingly upbeat family man, he isn't typically the first candidate to

play a rage-spewing, formerly alcoholic survivalist.

That's his character in the kidnapping drama "Prisoners," which debuted at the Toronto International Film Festival and will be released by Warner Bros. on Sept. 20. It's a new kind of role for Jackman: A rampaging father trying to find his young, missing daughter at all costs.

"I'm always looking to push the boundaries of what people think I should be doing or can do," said Jackman in an interview. "I'm very averse to the labeling you get. One of the downsides of doing press, which is a necessity, both the media and audiences go, 'Oh he's this kind of guy. He's a family guy, nice guy.' Whatever label it is, it's the hardest thing for an actor to get past."

Jackman acknowledges it's "a high-class problem of success." But his years-long circling of the part speaks to his strong desire to upend audience expectations.

"For an actor," he says, "it was one of those parts where you go, 'OK, this is something I haven't done before, this is going to stretch me.' It's asking for a sustained intensity that I haven't had before."

The film, directed by Quebec filmmaker Denis Villeneuve ("Incendies"), is about the frantic search for the kidnapper of two girls. When the chief suspect (Paul Dano) is released from custody by the police detective in charge of the case (Jake Gyllenhaal), Jackman's father ("almost Charles Bron-

son-y," he says) pursues and tortures him.

"He just felt it was the perfect timing for him after playing the superhero and playing the nice guy a lot," says Villeneuve. "He's a very, very powerful and strong actor. He was ready to go there."

It's a clear allegory for political issues, brought into a domestic setting. Gyllenhaal, whose pursuit is rational and methodical next to Jackman's furious, morally questionable mania, says of the two charac-

ters: "We are the right and left side of the brain of this film. We are the head and the heart."

Jackman, the father of two children with his wife, Deborra-Lee Furness, researched the part by learning about kidnapping experiences and the mentalities of survivalists. Though he drew on his own experiences as a parent, Jackman favored an acting approach that looked outside himself.

"It's dangerous to constantly dredge up your own fam-

ily thing," says Jackman. "The bottom line is, Actors will do whatever it takes. But if you can possibly get there without doing that—just using your imagination. Obviously, if you're only going to use your life experiences, you're limited."

But the 44-year-old actor, who will play Wolverine for the seventh time in next year's "X-Men: Days of Future Past," keenly recalls the few times his children have, for even a moment, been hard to find. Once,

he was at Sydney's Bronte Beach when his son was suddenly nowhere to be seen.

Panic started to set in. Making the situation all the worse was that paparazzi were there taking his photo. As Jackman paced between a playground and the beach, he ignored their shouts.

"Finally this guy goes, 'Hugh, he's in the tree!'" says Jackman. "I've never been so happy to have paparazzi follow me. I said: 'Whatever you need.'"

In heels and pounds lighter, Leto back in movies

TORONTO (AP)—Jared Leto's return to acting started, as so many things do, with a flirtation.

It had been five years since Leto last acted (the sci-fi indie "Mr. Nobody"), a movie career put on hold while his band, 30 Seconds to Mars, unexpectedly surged in popularity. The possibility of playing Rayon, a transgender person dying of AIDS for the film "Dallas Buyers Club," came to him while he was on tour in Europe.

After initially dismissing the chance, Leto read the script and he reversed course immediately. When he met with the director Jean-Marc Vallee via Skype, he was already trying on Rayon.

"I used it as a test for myself," Leto said in an interview. "I got some lipstick. We said hello and then I reached over and grabbed the lipstick and I proceeded to put it on. He was kind of like, 'What the hell is going on?' I took off my jacket and I had a little pink sweater on."

Vallee was properly seduced. He offered Leto the part the next morning.

The based-on-a-true story "Dallas Buyers Club" premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival over the weekend, ahead of its Nov. 1 release from Focus Features. It



AP
This Sept. 9, 2013 photo shows Jared Leto, a cast member in the film "Dallas Buyers Club," at the Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto.

stars Matthew McConaughey as Ron Woodroof, a Texas man who after being diagnosed with HIV and given days to live in 1986, is frustrated by the federal Food and Drug Administration's available treatments and begins illegally importing drugs from Mexico and elsewhere.

Though he's initially homophobic toward Rayon, they become friends and business partners.

The performances by McConaughey and Leto, both of which involved dropping dozens of pounds (Leto shed more than 30 pounds), were roundly applauded in Toronto and hailed

as likely Oscar nominees.

"I can't believe five years went by," the 41-year-old Leto says of his return to the big screen. "It's amazing to me."

Leto founded the rock trio 30 Seconds to Mars with his drummer brother Shannon Leto in 1998, but it was their 2005 film record, "A Beautiful Lie," which brought mainstream success, selling more than a million copies in the U.S. The band has since released two albums, including "Love, Lust, Faith and Dreams" earlier this year.

"We had more success than we ever dreamed of with 30

Seconds to Mars. We were playing the biggest shows of our lives," Leto said.

But Leto threw himself into the role of Rayon. Vallee said the premiere was the first time he met Leto, having previously only experienced Rayon. The actor sought out transgender people to listen to their experiences, intent on not playing Rayon as a stereotypical, one-liner-spewing drag queen.

"I saw the part as not a cross-dressing drag queen but someone who wanted to live their life as a woman," says Rayon. "In my initial meetings before I accepted the part, I made that pretty clear that that was really important to me."

Leto was particularly drawn to the film for the chance to work alongside McConaughey, whom he says he wanted "to get in the ring with."

"He gave me the courage to jump on board," Leto said.

The two both appear startlingly gaunt in the film. Leto has previously fluctuated his weight for parts, losing 25 pounds for his drug addict role in Darren Aronofsky's "Requiem for a Dream" ("You can see it in my eyes in that film," he says) and gaining some 60 pounds to play Beatle John Lennon's killer David Chapman for "Chapter 27."

Winehouse celebrated in her London spiritual home

LONDON (AP)—Amy Winehouse lived and died in north London's Camden neighborhood—and in the month that she would have turned 30, her presence is still being celebrated.

The beehived diva's spray-painted image adorns several Camden walls, and fans still flock to the area more than two years after her 2011 death from accidental alcohol poisoning at age 27.

Winehouse got her start amid the pubs and clubs of Camden, so local businesses are holding a series of events this month to raise money for the Amy Winehouse Foundation, a charity set up by the singer's family.

An exhibition opening Thursday at the Proud art gal-

lery includes photographs of the singer—many taken in Camden—along with paintings, sketches, graffiti art and the street sign from the square where she died at home, which is covered with tributes from fans.

"Camden meant everything to Amy, and Camden recognizes that," the singer's father, Mitch Winehouse said Wednesday at a preview of the show.

Other events for the charity, which helps young people nurture their love of music and steer clear of drugs, are a pop-up shop selling Winehouse-themed merchandise, an Amy Winehouse walking tour, benefit gigs and a charity skydive by the singer's mother, Janis.

A bronze statue of the singer

is soon to be erected at the Roundhouse concert hall, where she gave her final public performance.

Camden has been home to bands from Madness to Blur, and to rock stars including Coldplay's Chris Martin and Noel Gallagher of Oasis.

Camden Mayor Jonathan Simpson said the area, which has dozens of music venues, is "the rock 'n' roll capital of the U.K., if not the world."

"Amy is so synonymous with Camden," he said. "There's a real sense of pride in her legacy locally."

Yet if Camden was the making of Winehouse, it also was the scene of her undoing.

Alongside a lively night-

life, the area has a reputation as a place to buy and consume drugs. Winehouse, who overcame a drug problem before she died but failed to conquer alcohol, was a well-known customer of several local bars.

Many of the photos in the exhibition appear poignant now—particularly a series from 2004 showing a healthy-looking Winehouse far removed from the gaunt, heavily tattooed figure of later years.

"People say, well, Camden is a troubled place, it was trouble for Amy," said Mitch Winehouse. "It wasn't Camden. It was circumstances that surrounded Amy."

"It's a place of love. She loved it."

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'Breaking Bad' spinoff to feature Saul Goodman

NEW YORK (AP)—AMC is calling Saul Goodman for a spinoff of the network's drama series "Breaking Bad."

AMC and Sony Pictures Television on Wednesday confirmed the long-discussed spinoff, which will feature the popular support-

ing character from "Breaking Bad" in a one-hour prequel tentatively titled "Better Call Saul."

Played by Bob Odenkirk, Goodman is the sleazy New Mexico lawyer whose clients include "Breaking Bad" anti-heroes Walter White and Jesse

Pinkman, who manufacture crystal meth.

AMC said the new series would focus on Goodman before he crossed paths with those drug czars. The network provided no further details.

The 50-year-old Odenkirk's

credits include "Saturday Night Live," "The Larry Sanders Show" and, paired with David Cross, HBO's "Mr. Show" sketch-comedy series.

"Breaking Bad" concludes its much-acclaimed five-season run on Sept. 29.



AP
Prince Harry takes part in a trade on the BGC Partners trading floor, during the BGC Charity Day 2013, in Canary Wharf, London, Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2013.

Prince Harry loves being uncle, sees nephew smile

LONDON (AP)—Prince Harry says he loves being an uncle, telling children at an awards ceremony that he'd just witnessed the baby who may one day be king crack a smile.

Harry, who was pushed back to fourth-in-line to the British throne following the birth of his brother's son, Prince George, said Wednesday he'd just visited the 1 1/2-month-old royal, who was "fantastic."

was taking a bath.

Harry told 9-year-old Nikki Christou that it was the "first time I've seen him smile." The prince seems to have warmed to his new family role, telling Mary Kirk, the mother of another child, that being an uncle was "fantastic."

The ceremony was hosted by the WellChild charity, which is dedicated to the needs of sick children and their families.

Emily Blunt, John Krasinski are expecting their 1st child

NEW YORK (AP)—Emily Blunt and her husband, John Krasinski, are expecting their first child.

A representative for the actress confirmed the pregnancy Wednesday. It was first reported by Us Weekly.

Krasinski, 33, played hapless

Jim Halpert on NBC's workplace comedy "The Office." His film credits include "Away We Go" and "Leatherheads." Blunt, 30, has appeared in the movies "The Devil Wears Prada" and "The Adjustment Bureau."

The couple was married in 2010.



AP
This Jan. 13, 2013 file photo shows married actors Emily Blunt, left, and John Krasinski at the 70th Annual Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Drummer's appendectomy forces Bon Jovi tour change

NEW YORK (AP)—Drummer Tico Torres' emergency appendectomy in Mexico City has forced Bon Jovi to postpone concert dates. The band postponed Tuesday's show in Mexico City after Torres checked into the American British Cowdary Hospital. Jon Bon Jovi says in a Facebook post the band is staying with Torres until he is released from the hospital. Bon Jovi apologized to fans who might have been inconvenienced or were traveling to the concerts in Mexico City, Santiago, Chile, and Buenos Aires, Argentina. The band's website says concerts in those cities have been rescheduled for later this month. Bon Jovi said Torres wanted to play Tuesday's gig after the surgery "but the doctors prevailed." The band is scheduled to return to the road Sept. 20 in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.

Nobel winner Vargas unveils new novel

MADRID (AP)—Nobel-winning author Mario Vargas Llosa is unveiling his new novel, titled "The Discreet Hero" and set

in his native Peru. The novel revisits two influential cities in Vargas Llosa's past, the Peruvian capital Lima and the small northwestern city of Piura. Vargas Llosa told reporters Wednesday that the plot centers on a small business owner from Piura who is an extortion victim, and a rich Lima entrepreneur whose children want to kill him. The author said Peru's economic development over the past several decades is also a key theme for the novel. Vargas Llosa is now 77 and lives in Madrid. He won the 2010 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Marion 'Suge' Knight arrested after traffic stop

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Former hip hop mogul Marion "Suge" Knight has been arrested on an outstanding warrant after being pulled over for a traffic violation in Los Angeles. Police Officer Sara Faden says the founder of Death Row Records was stopped shortly after midnight Wednesday near Beverly Hills. She declined to say what the alleged traffic violation was. Officers determined Knight was wanted on a misdemeanor warrant and police took him into

custody. Records show he was booked into county jail and released several hours later on \$20,000 bail. A warrant was issued for Knight's arrest in February after he skipped a court appearance for driving without a license. Death Row Records helped make stars of rappers such as Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg and Tupac Shakur. Knight filed for bankruptcy in 2006.

Oklahoma, Minn. win 2nd night Miss America prelims

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Contestants from Oklahoma and Minnesota have won the second night of preliminary competitions in the Miss America pageant. Miss Oklahoma Kelsey Griswold won a \$1,000 scholarship for the swimsuit competition Wednesday. Miss Minnesota Rebecca Yeh won a \$2,000 scholarship for the talent competition for a classical violin performance. The two join contestants from Mississippi and New Hampshire who won preliminary contests Tuesday night. One more night of preliminaries is scheduled for Thursday. The next Miss America will be crowned in Sunday night's nationally televised finale.

Safe cycling practices get short shrift from bike riders

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Now that California law prohibits drivers from using cellphones and texting while driving, an additional issue needs to be addressed and acted upon. Bicyclists are supposed to abide by the vehicle codes, too, but they rarely do—and that includes not wearing protective gear.

I'm now seeing people on bikes texting, talking while riding and routinely ignoring stop signs. Disappointingly, I have never seen a single rider pulled over or ticketed for doing this. How many lives must be destroyed or lost before the police start enforcing penalties for the danger these people cause to others?

CARING READER, SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



Dear Abby

DEAR CARING READER: You're asking something I have been asking myself for some time. I understand that teenagers may think they're immortal as they whiz along the streets, but the adults I see weaving in and out and ignoring stop signs are old enough to know better.

Many cities promote bicycling as a way to mitigate traffic congestion and encourage a healthier, more active lifestyle. Police may ignore the infractions because they have more serious crimes to attend to. Or perhaps they have been instructed to do so. (If members of law enforcement would like to address this, I'd love to hear from you.)

While I'm on the subject of cyclists, I should mention my own concern about riders who wear dark clothing and ride after dark. Not all neighborhoods are well lit, and I have seen near misses because of it.

Although dark colors are fashionable, wouldn't it make sense for people who ride at night to wear jackets with reversible linings in a lighter color? (I have seen a few with fluorescent trim, but there haven't been many.) And if drivers are pulled over for broken or missing headlights or tailights, shouldn't the same be true for bicyclists?

DEAR ABBY: My son serves on a ship in the Navy in an area known for terrorism. People who know this tell me how safe his ship is, how strong the U.S. military is, etc.

PLEASE, people, when I (or anyone else who has a family member in the military) ask for prayers or express concern, do NOT offer these platitudes. Understand that our fears are real, and so are our tears.

Offer a hug, a hand-squeeze, say you will pray for us—but understand that until our loved ones are back on U.S. soil, our fears and tension won't lessen. Unless you have been in our shoes, you can't know how we feel when we watch the news because we have no true idea of what is going on. Our military family members can't tell us, and often we have no (or limited) contact with them. I cry alone often.

I am proud of my son for his service and even encouraged it, but this is a rough time for me and others who are in this situation.

MILITARY MOTHER

DEAR MILITARY MOTHER: Thank you for writing. Many people are uncomfortable when they encounter an emotional situation and don't know what to say. Their impulse is to "make it better," not realizing that sometimes a gesture is more eloquent than words can be.

I agree with you that when a loved one is in harm's way, it is an emotional roller-coaster ride for all concerned—the parents, the siblings, the spouses and the children of our servicemen and -women.

TO MY JEWISH READERS. Tonight at sundown, Yom Kippur, our Day of Atonement begins. For observant Jewish people, this is a time to fast, to reflect, to pray and formally repent for any sins that might have been committed during the previous Hebrew year. To all of you, may your fast be an easy one.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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Closing date: September 13, 2013

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Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, September 13, 2013.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA Human Resources by email at acmanahane@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

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Carp hits grand slam, Red Sox beat Rays, 7-3



ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP) —

Mike Carp connected for a pinch-hit grand slam in the 10th inning and AL East-leading Boston beat Tampa Bay 7-3 on Wednesday night.

Carp sent a drive over the center-field fence on the first pitch from Roberto Hernandez. It was the first pinch-hit grand slam for Boston since Kevin Millar hit one at Milwaukee on June 7, 2003.

Dustin Pedroia opened the 10th with a walk against Joel Peralta (2-7) and went to second on Shane Victorino's bunt. After David Ortiz was intentionally walked, Hernandez replaced Peralta and walked Mike Napoli on four pitches before Carp connected for his ninth homer.

Boston closer Koji Uehara (4-0) struck out two during a perfect ninth. He has retired his last 34 batters.

James Loney homered for the Rays, who trail the Red Sox by 9½ games in the division race, to tie it in the eighth. Tampa Bay, which has lost 13 of 17, saw its lead drop to one game over New York for the second AL wild-card spot.

Yankees 5, Orioles 4

In Baltimore, Robinson Cano hit a tiebreaking homer leading off the ninth inning, and New York also got solo shots from Alex Rodriguez and Curtis Granderson.

The Yankees moved past Baltimore and Cleveland in the AL wild-card hunt. New York has hit eight home runs in winning two of three in the four-game series that concludes Thursday night.

The Yankees trailed 3-1 before Granderson homered in the fifth — New York's first hit — and Rodriguez tied it in the sixth with his 653rd career home run.

In the ninth, after Cano connected off Tommy Hunter (4-4), Granderson tripled with one out and scored on an infield hit by Lyle Overbay.

David Robertson (5-1) worked the eighth and Mariano Rivera gave up a run-scoring single to Brian Roberts before securing his 43rd save, tied for the major league lead with Baltimore's Jim Johnson.

Chris Davis drove in two runs with a double, making him the first player in Orioles history to have 40 doubles and 40 homers in a season. Danny Valencia tied a career high with four hits, and Roberts had three singles.

Baltimore outhit New York 13-6.

Tigers 1, White Sox 0

In Chicago, Anibal Sanchez struck out 10 for Detroit.

Sanchez (14-7) allowed five hits and walked four in 7 1-3 innings while lowering his AL-best ERA to 2.50. Joaquin Benoit got three outs for his 18th save in as many opportunities, completing a five-hitter for Detroit's 11th shutout of

the season.

Omar Infante drove in the game's only run with a two-out single against Matt Lindstrom (2-4) in the eighth inning.

White Sox left-hander Jose Quintana pitched seven innings of five-hit ball. He remained winless over his last five starts despite a 3.03 ERA.

Athletics 18, Twins 3

In Minneapolis, Jed Lowrie's foul ball that turned into a two-run double after umpires changed the call highlighted a 10-run fourth inning for Oakland.

Every Oakland starter had at least one hit, one run and one RBI as the A's recorded a season-high 22 hits and extended their lead over Texas in the AL West to three games.

Lowrie, Coco Crisp and Stephen Vogt also homered. Yoenis Cespedes had three RBIs to help the A's score their most runs in a game since beating Boston 20-2 on Aug. 31, 2012.

With runners on second and third and three runs already in, Lowrie lined a ball down the line in the fourth that first-base umpire Bill Miller ruled foul as he danced out of the way.

Lowrie pointed at the ground inside the white line where he thought the ball hit. Oakland manager Bob Melvin came out to argue, and Lowrie was eventually awarded a two-run double after the entire umpire crew huddled and changed the call.

Twins manager Ron Gardenhire was ejected by Miller after a long argument.

Royals 6, Indians 2

In Cleveland, Alex Gordon homered on the game's first pitch and Kansas City's James Shields dominated after a shaky first inning.

Kansas City took two of three in the series between clubs that are in contention for the second wild card spot in the AL. The Royals, who entered Wednesday trailing Tampa Bay by three games, moved a game closer to the Indians. Cleveland was 1½ games behind the Rays.

The Royals had a home run, a triple and a single on the game's first seven pitches to take a 2-0 lead.

Angels 5, Blue Jays 4

In Toronto, Kole Calhoun hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the eighth inning and C.J. Wilson won his eighth straight decision for Los Angeles.

Mark Trumbo hit a two-run home run, his career-high 33rd, and Josh Hamilton had three hits as the Angels won for the ninth time in 12 meetings with the Blue Jays.

Mike Trout drew a one-out walk off Steve Delabar (5-3) in the eighth and went to third on Hamilton's double. Trumbo was intentionally walked to load the bases for Calhoun, who hit a sacrifice fly to left.

Calhoun went 1 for 2 with two sacrifice flies, helping the



Boston Red Sox's Mike Carp reacts as he heads for home plate after his 10th-inning grand slam off Tampa Bay Rays relief pitcher Roberto Hernandez during a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2013, in St. Petersburg, Fla. (AP Photo/Chris O'Meara)

Angels win for the fifth time in seven games.

Astros 6, Mariners 1

In Seattle, Brad Peacock gave up one run in six innings and Chris Carter singled in two runs to lead Houston to the three-game sweep.

Kendrys Morales hit the 100th home run of his career for Seattle, which has lost four straight at home.

Peacock (5-5) allowed four hits, struck out four, walked one and retired the final nine batters he faced. Josh Zeid got out of an eighth-inning jam and finished the ninth for his first career save.

Brandon Maurer (4-8) allowed five runs—all scoring with two outs—and seven hits in three innings. It was the first major league start for Maurer since May 28. He was pressed into duty to replace ace Felix Hernandez, who was originally scheduled for the start but was scratched Monday with a minor oblique strain.

Pirates 7, Rangers 5

In Arlington, Texas, Clint Barmes homered and drew a bases-loaded walk as Pittsburgh completed a three-game sweep in an interleague matchup of wild-card leaders.

Justin Morneau, acquired from Minnesota less than two weeks ago, snapped an 0-for-14 slump with four hits while scoring twice for the Pirates.

Texas has lost nine of its last 12, a stretch in which the Rangers have lost four consecutive series. They have gone from a three-game lead in the AL West to entering Wednesday 2½ games behind Oakland.

A.J. Burnett (8-10) struck out seven in 6 1-3 innings, though he faded late after retiring the first 13 batters he faced.

Marlins 5, Braves 2

In Miami, in his season finale, Miami Marlins rookie Jose Fernandez pitched seven innings, hit his first major league homer and engaged in a standoff with

the annoyed Atlanta Braves that cleared both benches and bullpens.

When he had completed his eventful evening, Fernandez slowly walked off the mound one last time, removing his cap as the crowd gave him a standing ovation. Two relievers pitched the final two innings, and the woeful Marlins beat the playoff-bound Braves 5-2.

The game was the last of the season for the demonstrative 21-year-old Fernandez because he passed his 170-inning limit set by the Marlins. A top candidate for NL Rookie of the Year, he finished 12-6 with an ERA of 2.19, second-lowest in the majors behind only the Dodgers' Clayton Kershaw.

Fernandez homered in the sixth inning, and after slowly circling the bases he engaged in a heated exchange with catcher Brian McCann, which prompted the other players to join them. Shoves were swapped but no punches were evident, and no one was ejected.

Nationals 3, Mets 0

In New York, Dan Haren pitched one-hit ball for six innings, Ryan Zimmerman homered and Washington earned its fifth consecutive win.

The Nationals improved to 22-9 in their late charge toward a playoff spot. They remained six games behind Cincinnati for the final NL wild-card spot with only 17 to play.

Haren (9-13) and the Washington bullpen held an overmatched New York lineup to three singles. Rafael Soriano got three outs for his 41st save.

The night was full of 9/11 tributes. Mets manager Terry Collins wore an NYPD hat during batting practice, and there were several remembrances on the field, on the scoreboard and over the public-address system of those affected by the terror attacks 12 years ago.

Zack Wheeler (7-5) gave up one run and eight hits in seven innings, striking out six and walking one. He wound up with his third loss in four starts.

Diamondbacks 4, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Paul Goldschmidt had four hits and two RBIs, helping the Diamondbacks snap a five-game skid against the Dodgers.

Patrick Corbin (14-6) ended a three-game losing streak while improving to 2-0 in three starts at Dodger Stadium. The left-hander allowed one run and eight hits in 6 1-3 innings.

Brad Ziegler pitched the ninth for his 10th save in 12 chances.

Dodgers left-hander Hyun-Jin Ryu (13-6) gave up three runs and 10 hits—his second-most this season—in his first start since Aug. 30. The left-hander missed his scheduled start last Friday because of a stiff back.

Los Angeles got its only run

on Yasiel Puig's 16th homer in the seventh.

Cardinals 5, Brewers 1

In St. Louis, Matt Adams hit a two-run homer in St. Louis' four-run eighth inning, helping the Cardinals to their fifth consecutive win.

Matt Carpenter and Matt Holliday had two hits apiece for the Cardinals, who maintained a one-game lead over Pittsburgh in the NL Central.

Brewers reliever Brandon Kintzler (3-2) was charged with three runs and recorded two outs.

Carlos Beltran's sacrifice fly off Michael Gonzalez scored Carpenter to give the Cardinals a 2-1 lead. An error by catcher Jonathan Lucroy allowed Jon Jay to score and Adams followed with his 12th homer.

Trevor Rosenthal (2-3) had a hitless eighth inning for the win.

Reds 6, Cubs 0

In Cincinnati, Devin Mesoraco homered for the first time in a month, Jack Hannahan added his first career pinch-hit homer and the Reds avoided a sweep by the last-place Cubs.

Mesoraco broke out of his slump with three hits as the Reds closed a 7-3 homestand.

Mike Leake (13-6) allowed four hits and walked four in 5 2-3 innings en route to a career high in wins, despite humid conditions and an 84-degree temperature at gametime.

Phillies 4, Padres 2

In Philadelphia, Cliff Lee pitched eight sharp innings and Freddy Galvis had three hits for Philadelphia.

Lee (13-6) allowed two runs and five hits, struck out nine and walked one. It was the second straight eight-inning outing and fourth in the last six starts for Lee, who pounded his glove and skipped toward the dugout after fanning Jedd Gyorko to end the eighth.

Gyorko and Tommy Medica homered for the Padres, who had won four in a row. Medica's solo shot in the fifth was his first hit in his major league debut.

Jonathon Papelbon pitched a scoreless ninth for his 26th save in 33 chances.

Giants 4, Rockies 3

In San Francisco, Marco Scutaro and Brandon Belt hit consecutive RBI singles in the eighth inning to help San Francisco rally for the victory.

The Giants loaded the bases with one out against Matt Belisle (5-7), and Scutaro followed with a tying single into right field. Belt's hit drove in Angel Pagan and gave San Francisco a 4-3 lead.

Guillermo Moscoso (2-2) pitched two scoreless innings for the victory, securing the first winning homestand for the Giants since May 20-26. Santiago Casilla finished for his second save.

Heat sign Beasley to non-guaranteed, minimum contract

NBA The Heat signed free-agent forward Michael Beasley on Wednesday, reuniting the No. 2 pick in the 2008 draft with the team that selected him. The Sun-Sentinel reported that Beasley will be invited to training camp on a non-guaranteed, veteran's minimum contract.

"Michael had the best years of his career with us," Heat president Pat Riley said in a statement. "We feel that he can help."

Yahoo! Sports reported over the weekend that the Heat were considering Beasley, who was released by the Suns earlier this month after an August arrest on marijuana charges.

Beasley, 24, spent the first two seasons of his career in Miami before he was traded to Minnesota in 2010, as the Heat cleared the decks so that they could acquire LeBron James and Chris Bosh. A 2009 All-Rookie First Team selection, Beasley averaged 13.9 points and 5.4 rebounds in his first season. He followed that up with averages of 14.8 points and 6.4 rebounds in his second season.

The Heat are in a unique position to take a chance on a player with Beasley's laundry list of off-court problems: They know him personally and worked with him extensively during his first two seasons; they don't really need his contributions, making him fully expendable if trouble pops up again; they boast a veteran-dominated, championship locker room with plenty of personalities

to look out for him; and they need all the minimum-salary contributors they can find, given their position above the luxury-tax line. The safe assumption is that Beasley will face a "one strike and you're out" reality.

As he should be. Beasley's off-court behavior, though, has often gotten more attention than is on-court ability. Indeed, it has been a long and rocky road since Beasley was taken directly after Derrick Rose in 2008, after earning Big 12 Player of the Year honors during his one season at Kansas State. Before playing his first game for the Heat, Beasley was fined \$50,000 for his role in a marijuana-related incident at the Rookie Transition Program. He also spent time in a substance abuse treatment center in 2009 before the Heat traded him.

Upon acquiring Beasley, then Timberwolves president David Kahn called him "a very young and immature kid who smoked too much marijuana" before he arrived in Minnesota. Beasley was later pulled over for speeding and cited for marijuana possession by Minnesota police during the 2011 lockout. He also shoved a fan in the face during a lockout exhibition game in New York and sued his former AAU coach, alleging that he had received improper benefits during his one season at Kansas State.

After two seasons in Minnesota, Beasley signed with the Suns in 2012 and claimed that he was a changed man.

"I realize 10 minutes of feeling good is not really worth putting my life and my career and my legacy in jeopardy," Beasley said, according to the Associated Press. "I'm confident

to say that part of my career, that part of my life, is over and won't be coming back."

Instead, his legal problems continued. In addition to his marijuana arrest, it was reported in

broke that Beasley was cited on Jan. 25 for multiple driving violations for driving 71 mph in a 45-mph zone at 1:10 a.m. in a Mercedes that did not have a license plate. Beasley was driving on a suspended license and a loaded gun was found in the vehicle. (www.si.com)

Lions' Ndamukong Suh appeals \$100K fine from NFL



ALLEN PARK, Mich. (AP)—Detroit Lions defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh says he isn't going to change what he does on the field.

And he's appealing his latest fine, too.

Suh was fined \$100,000 for an illegal block on a Minnesota Vikings player in the Detroit Lions' season-opening win last weekend. It is the NFL's biggest monetary fine for on-field conduct, not including the dollars lost by players due to suspensions.

"It's going through the appeals process," Suh said Wednesday.

Suh's agent, Roosevelt Barnes, said he expects the appeal to be heard later this week, when he hopes to provide another perspective to reduce his client's fine.

"Everyone is talking about how Ndamukong shouldn't have blocked the 300-pound lineman because there was no way he was going to catch a linebacker," Barnes said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "If that's the case, the lineman should've known he wasn't going to catch

the linebacker. But the lineman did attempt to catch the linebacker and Ndamukong attempted to block him. But everyone wants to make Ndamukong out to be a villain."

Suh vowed that he's not going to change his ways on the field, including when Detroit (1-0) goes on the road to play the Arizona Cardinals (0-1) on Sunday.

"I'm going to continue to play hard, blue-collar football," he said.

Suh's reputation for playing with a nasty streak started in 2010 when he had an NFL-high five personal fouls. The next season, he seemed to cement the perception when he stepped on the right arm of Green Bay's Evan Dietrich-Smith in a nationally televised game on Thanksgiving and ended the season with four personal fouls, tied for sixth in the league.

Since the league suspended Suh for two games—costing him \$165,294—for the stomp, the frequency in which he as called for major penalties has sharply decreased.

Since Suh returned from the suspension during the 2011 season, he has been called for two

personal fouls in a 20-game span while 42 NFL players have been called for more personal fouls, according to STATS. He was tied for 105th in the league with one personal foul penalty last year, STATS said, and was one of 41 players flagged for a person foul in Week 1 this season.

Suh said only the league, whose officials have declined comment about Suh's fine, would be able to say whether his reputation led to the hefty blow.

Lions receiver Nate Burleson, though, said there's no doubt.

"Once you put yourself in a position where the microscope is on you, minor mistakes become major every single time," Burleson said. "He mentioned it when he talked to us, 'There's a target on my back, and rightfully so, but because of that, I have to be aware of it and as we a team, we have to be aware of it.' ... There's a perception that Detroit football players are a little rough around the edges."

Suh apologized to the player he hit, Vikings center John Sullivan, on Sunday during the game.

"Player safety, it's a league concern and you got to only re-

spect it," he said. "That's one of the reasons why I spoke to Sullivan as we walked into halftime. He understood where I was coming from, no hard feelings."

Suh also expressed remorse to teammates for his penalty that negated a touchdown on the interception return.

Lions quarterback Matthew Stafford said Suh's apology was "a step in the right direction."

"He played the rest of the game and it got overshadowed by a stupid play that cost not only him, but our team, and he knows that," Stafford said. "We can't have that."

Detroit drafted Suh second overall in 2010 and signed him to a five-year contract worth as much as \$68 million with \$40 million in guarantees. He has lost some of that money because six fines and a suspension have cost him \$342,794.

"None of the things he has been fined for have hurt a player or caused a player to miss any games," Barnes said. "But ex-players who are trying to make a name for themselves on TV as sensational analysts keep calling him a dirty player."

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2013 Joeten Memorial Golf Classic set for Nov. 9

 To commemorate the memory of its founder, Jose C. Tenorio, the Joeten Family of companies is hosting the 2013 Joeten Memorial Golf Classic on Nov. 9 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

This year marks both the 20th death anniversary of Mr. Joeten and 15 years since the last Golf Classic was held in 1998.

All proceeds will be going to benefit the Joeten Charitable Foundation. It will be a flighted tournament, featuring Champi-

onship, A, B, C, Women's, and Senior's Flights.

Registration fee for the classic is \$95, which includes an entry to the luncheon banquet and diddy bag.

Forms are available at all Joeten retail locations, Ace Hard-

ware locations, Allstar Sporting Goods, Boarderline, Joeten Motors, The Athlete's Foot, and Pacifica Insurance.

Completed registration forms will only be accepted at the Joeten Motors Parts Department where you can pay by cash,

check, or credit card.

Checks should be made payable to the "Joeten Memorial Golf Classic." More details about the Golf Classic will be released in the coming weeks.

For more information, interested participants may call event chair Somia T. Quan at

234-6447 or e-mail her at joetenmgc@joeten.com.

The Joeten Family of companies believe that "Golf and Giving" were two of some of the greatest passions in Mr. Joeten's life and will be exemplified in the 2013 Joeten Memorial Golf Classic. (PR)

Sablan takes SGA August Ace



Gregorio M. Sablan pulled off a one-stroke win in the Saipan Golfers Association August Ace Tournament held last month at the Marianas Country Club.

The 22-handicapper Sablan shot a 91 at the Marpi course on Aug. 18, built off his 46 on front nine and 45 on the back.

Deducting his handicap score, he ended up with a net 69, ahead by only one shot against Frances M. Sablan.

The eventual runner-up fired a 52 and 49 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross 101 and net 70. Sablan holds a 31 handicap. Joining Gregorio and Frances Sablan in the Top 3 was Mariano Fajardo, who posted a net 72. The 21-handicapper Fajardo carded a 46 in the first nine holes and 47 in the last nine for a gross 93.

Besides the Top 3 in the August Ace competition, 21 SGA members also slugged it out in the closest to the pin and longest drive contests. Frances Sablan prevailed in the longest drive competition in hole

No. 2, while Greg Sablan won in hole No. 11. In the closest to the pin races, Nick Sablan topped hole No. 6, while Ben Aldan, Jung Eun Teack, and Joe Sablan won in the other three holes.

Meanwhile, SGA will hold its September Ace of the Month this Sunday on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. Showtime is at 9am, while tee off is at 10am. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Golfers Association members pose for a group photo during the club's tournament last month at the Marianas Country Club.

NMBA

From Page 32

to Guam's Bong Mojas and David Yao.

NMBA's 12 trophies surpassed the six (three first place wins) it got from the inaugural tournament last year.

"We got two title wins and four runners-up this year and we are very pleased with the results, especially with our youth players winning most of them. With our youth players com-

peting and winning in Guam, it goes to show that they are committed in training and developing their skills. NMBA hopes that their success will encourage more youth players to get interested in badminton," NMBA president Jerry Tan said.

Tan added NMBA would like to thank Guam National Badminton Federation for inviting Saipan players anew and for being a gracious host.

"Thank you to president Sandra Low, Bong Mojas, and the other officials and members of

GNBF for giving our players a wonderful weekend. Every time our players go off-island to compete they are able to gain valuable experience and gauge how far their skill level has gone," said Tan, adding that NMBA is planning to host Guam players for a similar weekend tournament later this year.

Meanwhile, other winners in the competition were ladies doubles recreational division's Gloria Bensan and Mel Zimara; mixed doubles recreational's Earl Labang and Elena Con-

duco; Level 1 mixed doubles champions Bong and Thess Mojas and runners-up Cloyd Rosas and Nica Mojas; and ladies doubles Level 1 champions Thess Mojas and Likky Lin and runners-up Nica Mojas and Michelle Kremper.

Over 60 players competed in the two-day contest with 12 coming from Saipan. Toshiko Obata, Annarose Omori, Lani Santos, and Cristy Villaflor were the other Saipan players who participated in the second edition of the GNBF-hosted event.

will be played next week.

The Cardinals (0-5) and the Yankees (3-4) are set to duel in the first match today at 4:30pm, while the Tigers (2-5) and Dodgers (1-5) are slated to meet at 7pm. Tomorrow, there will be three games with the Braves (6-1) taking on the Giants (5-2) at 9:30am, the Padres (6-1) battling the Cardinals at 12:30pm, and the Dodgers colliding against the Yankees at 3:30pm.

Giants' K.J. Deleon Guerrero leads the runs category with his 12, teammate Devin Flores is ahead in RBIs with seven, and Jones is on top of the doubles division with three.

Meanwhile, league coordinator Tony Rogolifo said they will be on a wait-and-see mode as far as this weekend's games schedule is concerned, while make-up matches (the Monday through Thursday's cancelled games)

BRAVES

From Page 32

Jones pitched 14.1 innings, allowed eight runs, and had two errors for a 0.98 ERA, while Camacho got a 1.24 ERA off two miscues and six runs allowed in 11.1 innings pitched.

In the strikeouts race, Brel is alone on top with his 16 Ks. Deleon Guerrero is at close

In other statistical races, the

will be played next week.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	89	58	.605	—
Tampa Bay	78	66	.542	9 1/2
New York	78	68	.534	10 1/2
Baltimore	77	68	.531	11
Toronto	67	78	.462	21

Central Division

Detroit	84	62	.575	—
Cleveland	77	68	.531	6 1/2
Kansas City	77	69	.527	7
Minnesota	63	81	.438	20
Chicago	58	87	.400	25 1/2

West Division

Oakland	84	61	.579	—
Texas	81	64	.559	3
Los Angeles	69	76	.476	15
Seattle	65	81	.445	19 1/2
Houston	50	96	.342	34 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	87	58	.600	—
Washington	76	69	.524	11
Philadelphia	67	78	.462	20
New York	64	80	.444	22 1/2
Miami	54	90	.375	32 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	85	60	.586	—
Pittsburgh	84	61	.579	1
Cincinnati	83	64	.565	3
Milwaukee	62	82	.431	22 1/2
Chicago	62	83	.428	23

West Division

Los Angeles	85	60	.586	—
Arizona	73	72	.503	12
San Diego	66	78	.458	18 1/2
Colorado	67	80	.456	19
San Francisco	66	80	.452	19 1/2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rotary Youth League U15 Regular Season

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



A KFC/Taco Bell player drives to the baseline against an Ol'Aces defender during a regular season game in the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



An Ol'Aces defender blocks a shot from a KFC/Taco Bell player.



A KFC/Taco Bell player fumbles as he is chased by an Ol'Aces defender.



A Rebelholics player goes for a layup against an Ol'Aces defender.



The Rebelholics' Melvin Deocares recovers a loose ball on the Ol'Aces' backcourt.



DYS' D.J. Ong, left, tries to tap the ball away from the Ol'Aces' K.J. Nabors.



A DYS player slices through to Ol'Aces defenders.



Three Ol'Aces defenders challenge the shot of a Rebelholics player.



The Rollers' Jude Tengco keeps the ball away from a KFC/Taco Bell defender.



**Carp hits
grand slam,
Red Sox beat
Rays, 7-3**

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Saipan Tribune Sports



**Heat sign Beasley
to non-guaranteed,
minimum contract**

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32 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

NMBA players bring home trophies



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas Badminton Association players returned from Guam with 12 trophies in the bag.



The visiting players recorded two first place wins and four second place victories in the 2nd GNBF Annual Summer Friendship Badminton Tournament held over the weekend at the Dededo Sports Complex.

Ezekiel Macario and Jen Savellano gave NMBA its first championship trophy after prevailing in the mixed doubles Level 2. Actually, the CNMI had a 1-2 finish in this division, as Macario and Savellano won over fellow NMBA players and siblings Jordan and Janelle Pangilinan.

Janelle Pangilinan and Savellano, who are from the Community Badminton Club, also made it to the finals of the women's doubles Level 2 and handed NMBA its second championship. It was another CNMI affair in the Level 2 title match, as Savellano and Janelle Pangilinan triumphed over Shirley Kim and Loida Ito.

In the men's Level 2 doubles, Macario partnered with Jordan Pangilinan and the CBC duo barged into the finals. However, the two U18 players lost to the host's Cloyd Rosas and John Conducto in the championship game.

Also advancing to the finals, but settling for runner-up honors were Level 1 entries Andreau Galvez and Jexler Caranto, who fell

See NMBA on Page 30

NMIFA opens fall youth league today



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United, left, and Tan Holdings FC players battle for the ball during their game in the U15 division of the NMIFA spring league this season at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will kick off the fall season of its youth league with two boys U15 matches today at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

The Tan Holdings FC and

Paire FC will open the 2013 NMIFA Fall Youth League when they collide at 5:30pm, while Matansa FC and Shirley's FC meet in the second match of the opening day at 7:30pm. Five teams make up the boys U15 field with many-time champion MP United FC drawing a bye in the kick-off.

See NMIFA on Page 30

Jen Savellano, left, and Ezekiel Macario, right, receive their first place trophies from Guam National Badminton Federation's Sandra Low and Bong Mojas during the awards ceremony for the mixed doubles Level 2 division in the 2nd GNBF Annual Summer Friendship Badminton Tournament held over the weekend at the Dededo Sports Complex.

Braves, Yankees pitchers share first place

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

 The Braves' Frankie Lieto and J.J. Lifoifoi and the Yankees' Gino Dela Cruz maintained a spotless ERA to share the top spot in the pitching race in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League.

Dela Cruz pitched 11.1 innings, allowed six runs, and had no errors for a 0.00 ERA, the same record Lieto and Lifoifoi hold. Lieto gave up only three runs in 7.2 innings pitched, while Lifoifoi surrendered one in 8.1 innings.

Another Braves ace Logan Martin made it to the Top 5 with

The Yankees' Gino Dela Cruz pitches against the Padres during the bottom of the third inning of their game in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



his 0.46 ERA. Martin pitched the most innings among the Top 10 leaders, staying on the mound in 15.1 innings and giving up six runs and committing one error. The Giants' Jesse Brel also had only one error and gave up three runs in 12.2 innings pitched to take the No. 5 spot with his 0.55 ERA.

Rounding of the Top 10 are three Tigers pitchers and one each from the Yankees and Dodgers. The Tigers' Justin Reyes earned a 0.91 ERA off 7.2 innings pitched, six runs allowed and one error to nab sixth place. His teammate Keene Leon Guerrero is in eighth spot after making two errors and allowing nine runs in 13 innings pitched. Jose Lizama also got two errors in 9.1 innings pitched and gave up 10 runs for a 1.50 ERA, which is good for 10th place.

The Yankees' Darion Jones and Dodgers' Brian Camacho completed the Top 10, placing seventh and ninth, respectively.

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